

Florida

Tackle For Florida

Cross-State Cruising

*Fishing • Hunting
• Conservation •
Outdoor Recreation*

WILDLIFE

APRIL 1965

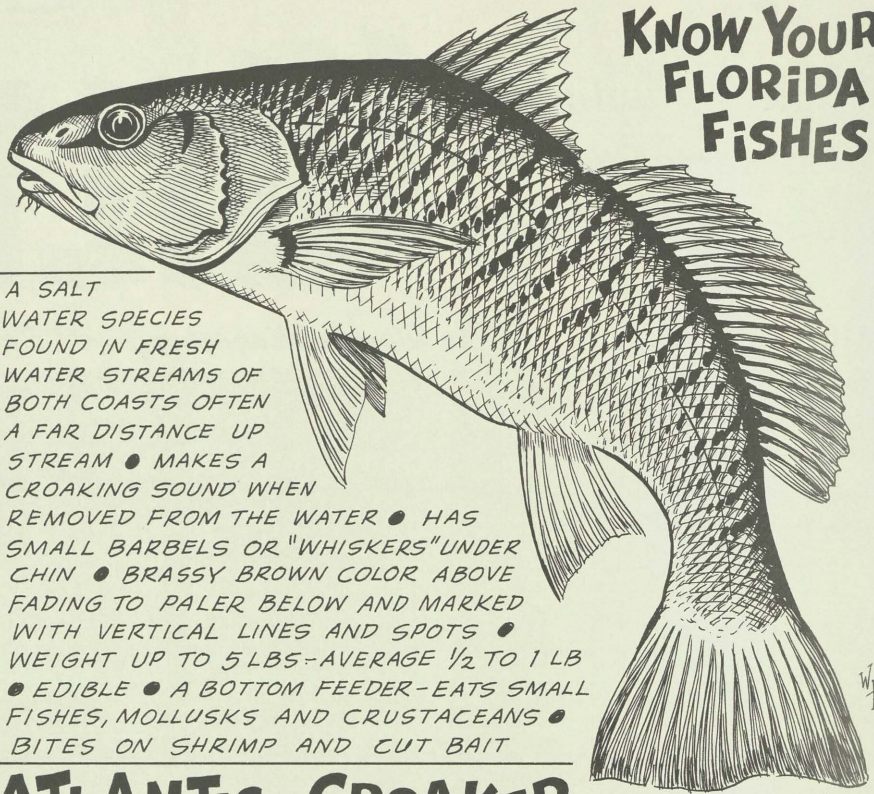
The Florida Magazine for all Sportsmen

25 CENTS



F L O R I D A

KNOW YOUR FLORIDA FISHES

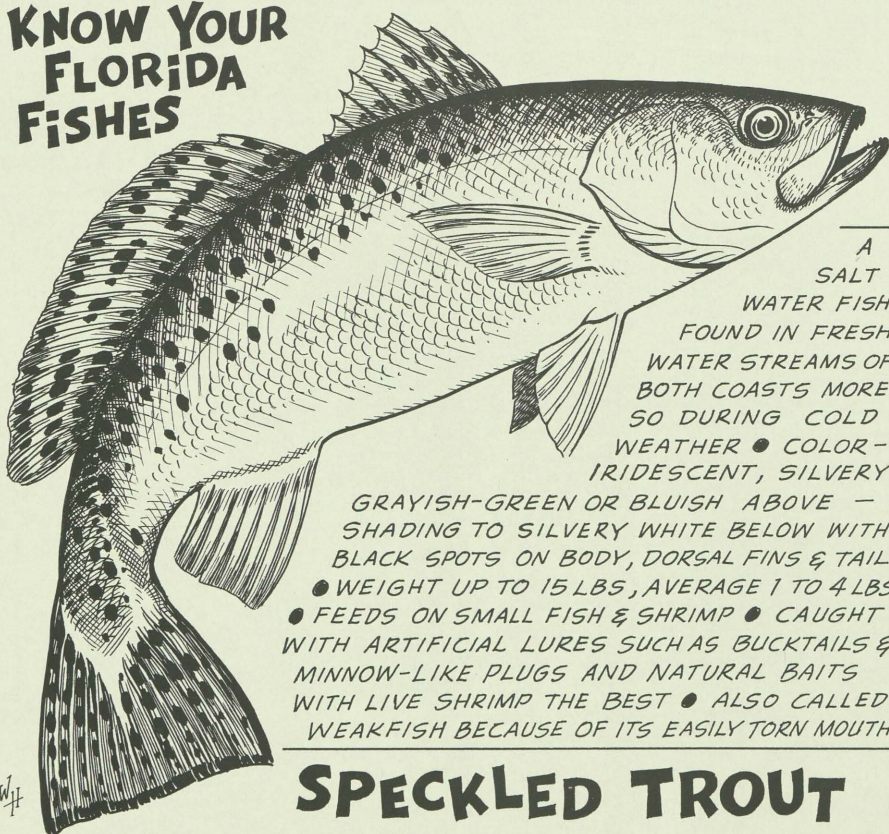


A SALT
WATER SPECIES
FOUND IN FRESH
WATER STREAMS OF
BOTH COASTS OFTEN
A FAR DISTANCE UP
STREAM • MAKES A
CROAKING SOUND WHEN
REMOVED FROM THE WATER • HAS
SMALL BARBELS OR "WHISKERS" UNDER
CHIN • BRASSY BROWN COLOR ABOVE
FADING TO PALER BELOW AND MARKED
WITH VERTICAL LINES AND SPOTS •
WEIGHT UP TO 5 LBS - AVERAGE 1/2 TO 1 LB
• EDIBLE • A BOTTOM FEEDER - EATS SMALL
FISHES, MOLLUSKS AND CRUSTACEANS •
BITES ON SHRIMP AND CUT BAIT

ATLANTIC CROAKER

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

KNOW YOUR FLORIDA FISHES



A
SALT
WATER FISH
FOUND IN FRESH
WATER STREAMS OF
BOTH COASTS MORE
SO DURING COLD
WEATHER • COLOR -
IRIDESCENT, SILVERY
GRAYISH-GREEN OR BLuish ABOVE -
SHADING TO SILVERY WHITE BELOW WITH
BLACK SPOTS ON BODY, DORSAL FINS & TAIL
• WEIGHT UP TO 15 LBS, AVERAGE 1 TO 4 LBS
• FEEDS ON SMALL FISH & SHRIMP • CAUGHT
WITH ARTIFICIAL LURES SUCH AS BUCKTAILS &
MINNOW-LIKE PLUGS AND NATURAL BAITS
WITH LIVE SHRIMP THE BEST • ALSO CALLED
WEAKFISH BECAUSE OF ITS EASILY TORN MOUTH

SPECKLED TROUT

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

W I L D L I F E S C R A P B O O K

★

Published monthly by the
FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

★

Dedicated to the
Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of our Game and Fish

★

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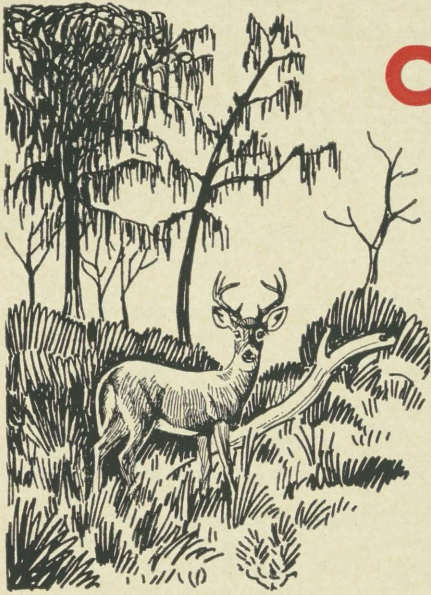
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CONSERVATION SCENE

Space Race Brings Boon to Florida Waterfowl

Outdoor Recreation Annual Fee Established

DURING A SIX month period from July 1 through December 31, 1964, the hyacinth control division of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission effected a kill of approximately 10,929 acres of hyacinths and other aquatic vegetation.

According to a report released by V. W. Myers, Assistant Chief of the Commission's hyacinth control division, eleven control crews operating airboats, and one airplane crew, treated 122 bodies of water located in 28 counties. The spraying operation required 6,496 gallons of chemicals which are mixed at a ratio of one gallon of chemical to 100 gallons of water or other carrier fluid.

In addition to the spraying operation, the hyacinth control crews spent approximately 525 hours cutting boat trails with underwater weed cutters in order to provide more fishing and better boating for Florida's floating sportsmen. Personnel of the hyacinth control division also spent approximately 3,175 hours assisting Florida's wildlife officers in enforcing the game laws during the early days of the hunting season.

Florida's rivers received maximum attention during this spraying period. A total of 2,148 acres of hyacinths were treated on the

Withlacoochee River in Citrus, Marion, Sumter and Levy Counties; 1,050 acres on the Myakka River in Sarasota County; and 997 acres on the Suwannee River in Dixie and Levy Counties. The St. Johns River in Brevard County received treatment on 680 acres, followed by the Peace River in Polk, DeSoto, Charlotte and Hardee Counties with 533 acres being sprayed. Other rivers receiving treatment were the St. Lucie River in St. Lucie County; Sebastian River in Indian River County; New River in Pasco County; Kissimmee River in Polk and Osceola Counties; Hillsborough River in Pasco and Hillsborough Counties; Homosassa and Chassahowitzka Rivers in Citrus County; and the Apalachicola River in Franklin County.

Space Race and Waterfowl

ONE WOULDN'T expect the race for outer space to be helpful to ducks and geese, but that is what has happened at NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center near Cape Kennedy, Florida.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has made available a total of 38,700 acres to the Department of the Interior for a waterfowl refuge.

The Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge was established in August 1963, when 25,300 acres of marshland were made

available for management by Interior's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Last month the Kennedy Space Center added 13,400 more acres to the refuge.

The marsh area, acquired as a buffer zone between the Merritt Island launch area and the Florida mainland, is just north and west of Cape Kennedy.

Before the refuge was established, Fish and Wildlife Service scientists were concerned that there might be adverse effects to wildfowl from the high intensity sound produced by rocket engines during launches from nearby Cape Kennedy and from future launches from the Merritt Island Space Port.

Observations were conducted at Edwards Flight Research Center, California, and biologists could detect no discomfort or injury to penned birds during tests of large rocket engines.

Merritt Island is the second major waterfowl refuge on Florida's east coast. The marshes and surrounding waters are a major wintering area for waterfowl in the Atlantic Flyway.

Lesser scaup duck concentrations, numbering up to half a million, have been seen on the brackish waters of Indian River, Mosquito Lagoon, and the Banana River.

Numerous small ponds in the area are preferred resting and feeding places for many kinds of

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THE COVER

Spring fever—Florida style—fishing for trophy size largemouth bass, a common scene throughout the state. This angler seeks his lunker bass along the beautiful Homosassa River, near Homosassa Springs' Nature Gardens mid-way down Florida's Gulf coast.

Photo By Al Hackett, Florida State News Bureau

Tagged and Transferred Bass Pay Dollars to Florida Angler

FISH ARE EASIER to catch when they're away from home. That fact was underscored recently by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission with evidence from the fifth annual Schlitz \$500,000 Florida Fishing Derby, a statewide fish tagging project for the benefit of conservation and recreation.

The Derby, now under way through April 30 in its Zone 1, the lower East Coast, will open for three months April 1 in Zone 2, Southwest Florida; May 1 in Zone 3, Central Florida; and June 1 in Zone 4, North Florida.

On the East Coast, the Commission is making a special study of the biting habits of young bass, along with other biological research.

Bass are known to be home loving creatures, rarely straying far away, but what happens if they are moved to strange water?

The answer: They'll bite anything and everything they see before them.

For its experiment, the Commission tagging team, headed by William L. Wegener, transferred tagged young bass in tank trucks from their native habitat and released them in canals of Palm Beach, Broward and Dade counties. Percentage-wise, their capture has been more rapid and twice as great as tagged fish released in home water.

One fisherman alone caught four in two days, and received \$2,025 in cash awards from the Jos. Schlitz Brewing Company which defrays all costs of the conservation program. He is Owen Day, Fort Lauderdale postoffice worker, who would have got more except that he threw back the first two, worth at least \$25 and maybe higher awards ranging up to \$10,000. He didn't know then the meaning of their numbered tags. One other fish he took to a Schlitz wholesaler in accordance with Derby rules had a \$1,000 tag value, and a number designated as an Old Milwaukee Conservation Award which pays double the normal award. Day was paid \$2,000. His fourth young bass was worth \$25. All were caught on Highway 27 near Andytown, and were "transferred" fish. ●

A Search For Nobility

Nature and Man

By ERNEST SWIFT

National Wildlife Federation

STICKS AND STONES and a tax exemption will not build a church. A church is a symbol—a symbol of man's search for nobility.

This age-old search encompasses emotions so deep-seated in the human breast as to create both physical symbols and a profound reverence within the individual. This inner-satisfaction, this search for an inner-peace does not have the same impact or depth of feeling in all people. Even the money changers used the Temple as a place of business, but of all human institutions the church is the least dominated by economics; well recognizing that as an institution it cannot stand unless fortified by overpowering human desires and funds to keep it solvent.

The State of California and the U. S. Government are now feeling the impact of human desires from the world over for the preservation of the Redwoods. There are a great many money changers who admit competency to adjudicate the case. Whereas man's determination to have a church is premised on his climb to nobility, those who would save the Redwoods are too often classed as unrealistic and emotionally unbalanced, but nobility is not granted them as a virtue. It is considered a vice.

When the first Europeans looked upon these massive trees along the Pacific coast there were only about 2,000,000 acres in the original stand, and a minute fraction of the continental forest cover. Once more widely distributed they are now a remnant race and a rare genus. Today, only 48,000 acres of virgin forest enjoy precarious protection in California state parks. Within the comprehension of man, nature has not duplicated them anywhere in the world. They link the fossil life of the past with the present. In the beginning their ageless grandeur was as unbelievable as Jim Coulter's yarns of the Yellowstone geysers.

For decades prolific writers have attempted to describe them, but in a larger sense all superlatives fail. Others are so overwhelmed as to stand mute. Their significance to the American culture was recognized as early as 1919 when a SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE was founded.

Like our high mountain parks, like the Grand Canyon, like the Yellowstone, they are unique beyond description. By comparison man is a crawling midget, but like the compulsive termite, man can completely destroy them. This has been graphically

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FISHING



Cub Campers

By CHARLES WATERMAN

IF YOU KNOW THE where and how of any kind of fishing, the “when” is your Number One problem.

You may have all kinds of spies in the field but if you can’t make a fast takeoff when the word is out, you’ll miss the best of it.

Good fishing can get out of date fast as yesterday’s newspaper.

Constantly moving salt water fish like mackerel or blues can sweep a coast and be gone within hours, leaving rows of happy fishermen with aching arms and almost as many unhappy fishermen who arrived just a little too late.

Fresh water fishing can change almost as fast—not because the fish have migrated but because they’ve changed their habits suddenly.

When we had plenty of high water last fall, followed by a long dry spell, the sharpies knew steadily falling water would cause run-ins from hundreds of bays and small creeks. As these water levels dropped, there were brief periods of excellent bass fishing where the backwaters were draining.

Two things happen here. First the larger fish are forced to leave the shallow waters but don’t necessarily go far. Secondly, the small bait fish and other food move out later and find bass waiting for them.

In December and early January that was happening in some small creeks that drained into Lake Monroe near Sanford. Bass fishing was pretty good.

That’s part of the St. Johns River system and

The Chain Pickerel will never rate as a top Florida game fish, but for its size, the “jack” is a scrapper

something similar happened a few weeks earlier in Puzzle Lake, some miles further upstream.

Puzzle Lake is generally more puzzle than lake but there’s a vast expanse of it during high water with only wandering, shallow river channels (“splits” they’d call them in some parts of the country) during low water.

Charley Nordmann, a neighbor of mine, has taken me up there a couple of times. Puzzle Lake is in flat, easily flooded country and Brahman cattle graze over most of its bottom when rain is scarce.

The first time Charley took me up there, apparently trying for some sort of cross-country record with his fast outboard, we skidded around the hairpin turns so fast I didn’t even try to mark our course. The next time, three of us had my old 18-horse motor on a slow skiff and we dug bottom almost constantly while Charley muttered unkind things about me and my motor. At least I got to see the country that time.

Both times I was too late for the fishing. The water had run down too far. On one tour, I recall catching a stray bass or two but Charley was disgusted.

“Two weeks ago—,” he’d start and tell how he’d killed the limits of snipe and ducks and caught a mess of bass, all in the same day.

Puzzle Lake is an extreme case but when the run-ins are just right, I guess it can be fabulous. When they aren’t just right, I don’t think much of it as a fishing site.



Puzzle Lake, “more puzzle than lake,” has few landmarks and a drop of a few inches can lay bare thousands of acres. Charley Nordmann, left, travels to the scene by boat but fishes the area in waders.

BASS SCHOOLING on very tiny bait can send you home talking to yourself. Most fishermen just aren't equipped with lures that small.

The solution is either to match the peewee bait or try them with something much larger and entirely different. The latter doesn't work very often.

If you'll take a fly rod and tie on several very tiny streamers at once you can sometimes create your own "school" of bait and do pretty well. I've never caught any whoppers that way but a 2-pounder isn't unusual.

Schooling or regularly striking bass *generally* require lures of about the size of the bait they're striking but not necessarily the same shape or color. I've watched the late Norton Webster catch and release dozens of schooling bass, using popping bugs that didn't look at all like the bait they were striking.

Of course, the use of plastic worms or lead jigs on the bottom near such schoolers can sometimes be very productive but you aren't imitating the surface bait then—you're simply fishing a part of the bottom you know has fish because of the upstairs program.

In my experience, such bottom fishing is apt to be feast or famine.

I KEEP HEARING new angles on living aboard a fresh water fishing boat. I have a 16-footer that takes a small tent which can be folded during the daytime for wide open casting room. It's a make-shift rig although it serves my purpose well.

The Cub Craft Camper Boat is a factory-produced unit made by American Fabricators, Inc., Orangeburg, S.C. It is a little less than 14 feet long and is 67 inches wide. The entire fiberglass rig is covered by a tent which can be erected from inside.

With tent top and two hammocks the boat costs \$895 at the factory. During the day, everything can be stashed for fishing. There seems to be plenty of ventilation in the tent—something that has been sadly neglected in a lot of Florida overnight craft.

If you're after any kind of sleep-aboard boat, keep this ventilation in mind. The cozy little quarters that look so nice in the showroom can be sweat-boxes on a quiet summer night.

This Cub Craft is a much more advanced outfit than the one I keep yelling about.

Most fishermen who camp aboard a boat can tie up to land at night.

In cases where you have to sleep away from shore, a rig such as the Cub Craft has some disadvantage in that there is no walk way around it when the tent is set up. Probably the extra interior room makes up for this shortcoming. The boat is rated for a 40-horse motor.

Best of all, you can camp aboard it when it is sitting on a trailer on dry land.



A ready-made camper on land or water, this Cub Craft camper boat can be converted from an open fishing craft, into a "tent."

IT WOULD TAKE an all out public relations campaign to make the pickerel a favorite game fish in Florida but in states with less variety, pickerel fishing is pretty important.

For his size, the "pike" gives a good account of himself.

There are some very small species of pickerel that don't often make it past a foot in length but chain pickerel weighing five pounds are not unusual.

In silhouette, the pickerel is about the same as the northern pike or musky.

When I came to Florida I had always associated the pikes with colder weather and my first pickerel was a surprise.

They're grass lovers. Like most slender fish they generally run instead of digging when hooked. Although I've caught them on poppers, my first choice in an artificial would be a small wobbling spoon or a spinner and porkrind combination.

A lot of pickerel have reached the frying pan via the pork strip route. You can use a strip with a cane pole, skittering it and then letting it sink for a moment. A spinner might help.

When they're on the prod, pickerel are willing strikers. In weedy waters they tend to slice at the bait in such a way you may think you have a gar coming. They'll follow a lure clear to the tackle box so keep it working right to the gunwale.

Pickerel are excellent food fish although you may want to keep a bone dish handy.

In trying to supplement my rather scanty pickerel knowledge today, I grabbed for some faithful reference books. To my surprise, I found nothing about pickerel in Guy Gabrielson's Fishing Encyclopedia. Phillip Rice's 285-page book on panfish doesn't cover them and two other handbooks left them out although I found some spicy dope about gambusia.

(Continued on page 30)

MUZZLE FLASHES



Gun Sights

By EDMUND McLAURIN

A READER ASKS IF Redfield sights are good. . . . My answer is emphatically, "Yes!"

I've been using Redfield sights for almost forty years. Many a hunting trophy has fallen to an accurately placed bullet fired from a rifle equipped with a Redfield "Sourdough" front sight and a receiver-mounted peep sight.

Much enjoyed were several Redfield Model 70 receiver sights. Made of steel, the Model 70 was beautifully designed, heavy, sturdy, with easy and dependable adjustments. (The model has been succeeded by the Redfield "Trophy," made from a light, stronger than steel alloy and given minor improvements.)

In the two decades embraced by the Twenties and Thirties, I successfully used a hood style Redfield target front sight and a micrometer-click rear in many of the big rifle tournaments of those years. Today, improved versions are to be found in Redfield's "International Match" and "International Military" models, made for target-grade .22 and .30 caliber rifles used in the national matches and the Olympics.

John Redfield, the founder of the Redfield Gun Sight Company, of Denver, Colorado, was making good sights before my time, and continued to do so right up to his passing in the early 1940's. Since then, Watt Redfield, Owen Tytegraff and Ed Hilliard have each contributed considerable know-how to Redfield sight designing and manufacture. As a result, Redfield sights are aiming aids that serious shooters swear by, not at!

What are some good Redfield metallic sight combinations for popular hunting rifles?

First of all, I recommend a "Sourdough" model front sight whenever possible to utilize it.

Most firearms editors and experienced shooters agree that the "Sourdough" is an exceptionally practical front sight for hunting. The late Col. Townsend Whelen, long America's foremost firearms' authority, repeatedly lauded it.

The model features a flat top blade that has a gold face inlaid at a 45 degree angle so that the sight shows up plainly in poor light, yet holds on target in bright light. The "Sourdough" can be used on a long list of rifle models; such are catalog designated by specific symbols.

The variety of gun sights manufactured by Redfield are precision aiming aids

Next, for hunting consider the Redfield "Trophy" model rear peep sight. The "Trophy" model has coin-adjusting elevation and windage knobs that make for faster, easier and more accurate sight changes than Redfield's cheaper "Record."

Whichever your choice, specify a peep disc $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch overall diameter, with an .093 center peep hole. Unless otherwise specified, a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch disc with size .046 peep hole is furnished. For hunting, you want a disc of small diameter that will not clutter up your line of sight, and a large peep hole through which your aiming eye can quickly find target and front sight.

For the Marlin Model 336 Carbine and the J. C. Higgins Model 45, team a "Sourdough" W-500 front sight with a "Trophy" TR-OM receiver peep sight.

Remington Models 740, 742 and 760 will be ideally equipped with the same combination. For these rifle models, M-313 is the proper base designation for the "Sourdough" front sight and the TR-BR the correct listing in the "Trophy" model rear.

The widely popular Winchester Model 94 lever-action takes the "Sourdough" front sight in W-260 designation, and TR-E rear.

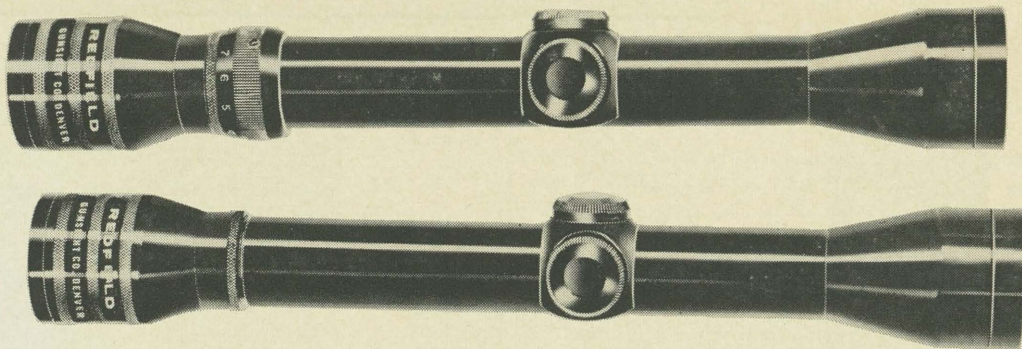
The Winchester Model 88 takes an M-375 "Sourdough" front sight matched to a TR-WW "Trophy" rear.

The Savage Model 99 in its various modern versions takes an M-375 "Sourdough" front sight designation and a TR-LS model rear.

Of course, if you are a confirmed user of a bead style front sight and flatly refuse to give the excellent "Sourdough" a chance to prove its worth, you can substitute a Redfield ivory or gold bead for the recommended front sight. Consult the Redfield or Stoeger catalogs for available models, bead sizes and needed overall sight height for a particular rifle model.

Where a war surplus British .303 caliber Jungle Carbine is used for hunting, a TR-OM "Trophy" rear sight can be ordered, along with an adapter plate that attaches to the left side of the rifle's receiver. You simply remove the military sight and ejector screw and attach the adapter plate and new sight. However, you will need a band-type front sight ramp, along with a front sight of proper height. Give rifle make, model and rifle barrel

The Redfield 2X-7X Variable Power scope sight is desirably compact, and about the same size as a 4X fixed power model. Also, the aiming reticule does not objectionably magnify as power and target image are increased.



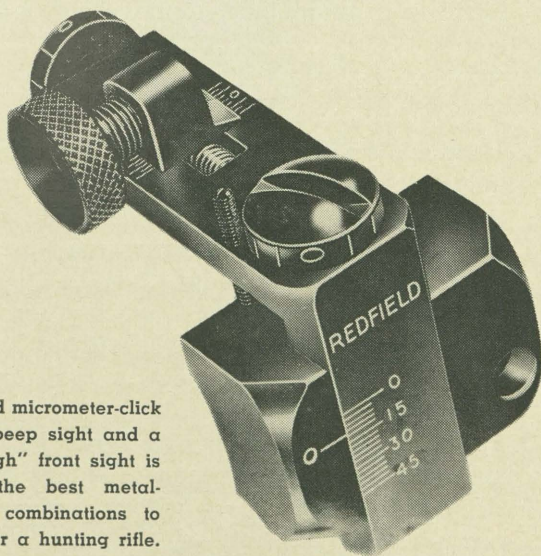
length when ordering, to avoid any possibility of getting the wrong combination.

In similar vein, combinations are also available for war surplus military model Mausers, Kraggs, Enfields and Springfields being converted into sporters.

Accurate shooting of rifled slugs from a shotgun calls for some sort of adjustable rear sight, preferably a peep mounted on the receiver. For slug shooters, Redfield makes a shotgun sight that is a dandy. It's a receiver mounting peep that can be easily fitted to most flat-sided pumps and autoloaders, to get the best possible accuracy from fired rifled slugs, but one which can be quickly removed to convert the shotgun for upland feathered game. The entire sight comes off when a large knurled-head screw is loosened, leaving only a slim, flat sight-mounting base on the left side of the shotgun's receiver. Known as the RE-SG model Shotgun Sight, the slug sighting aid should be correctly ordered by both name and symbol. It should not be used on a double-barrel shotgun—only on a single shot, pump or autoloader.

Several years ago the Redfield Company made serious entry into the field of scope sight manufacturing by purchasing the already basically good Kollmorgan "Bear Cub" line of scopes and improving them.

Four Redfield innovations are particularly worthy of mention and description.



A Redfield micrometer-click receiver peep sight and a "Sourdough" front sight is one of the best metallic sight combinations to be had for a hunting rifle.

Probably first in importance to the shooter is a non-magnifying reticule for variable power scope sights. Until the Redfield Company successfully tackled the problem, a shooter using a variable power scope sight had the disadvantage of the aiming crosshairs being magnified along with the target image when scope power was increased.

The problem was licked by putting the reticule in the focal plane of the eye lens system, instead of in the focal plane of the objective lens. Thereafter, scope power could be changed from a lower to a higher magnification without the crosshairs looking like 2x4's, and without altering point of established bullet impact. The non-magnifying reticule made its appearance in 1961, in the Redfield 3X-9X Variable. A year later a 2X-7X model was produced, one no larger than a short length, fixed power 4X hunting scope, but with variable power feature. Hunters have accepted the new model enthusiastically.

Another major development is the incorporation of a non-removable eyepiece in all currently manufactured Redfield scope sights. In words the non-removable eyepiece feature may not seem of any great importance, but in the field it means that the eyepiece cannot become loose and be lost, or removed by inquisitive fingers of a curious friend, with possible entry of dirt or moist air—two major causes of fog in a scope's optics.

However, the Redfield Company is probably more proud of its development of a practical variable power, *range-finding* scope sight, and its accomplishment of successfully mounting a scope sight central overbore on the top-ejecting Winchester Model 94. The two developments merit description.

The working principle of the "Accru-Range" models, or range-finding scopes, is based on the premise that the average deer measures approximately 18 inches from shoulder to brisket. Two horizontal reference lines are seen in the scope's field of view; the hunter simply fits his game's vitals between these lines and reads the approximate distance in a clearly visible scale in the lower quadrant of the sight picture. He then holds his aiming reticule dead on, below or above his target in accordance with known range and bullet trajectory factors.

(Continued on page 32)

Hunting-Trials-Training



BY JIM FLOYD

Georgia-Florida Field Trial standard of instructions for judges and handlers

THE 74th annual Georgia-Florida Field Trial, the most colorful of all bird dog field trials, was run this year on February 8. The trial was held on the 20,000 acre Pinckney Hill Plantation near Monticello in Jefferson County. There was a field of eighteen of the finest shooting dogs from the quail country of south Georgia and north Florida competing for honors during thirty minute heats.

Winning the one day trial was a liver and white pointer "River Bend Sam" owned by J. H. Thompson of the River Bend Plantation near Quitman, Georgia, and handled by Terrell Dixon. River Bend Sam located five coveys during his half hour running time and provided the gallery an opportunity to observe a perfect performance in honoring his brace mates' find. Throughout the heat the hunting of River Bend Sam was forward, stylish and clean, and left little to be desired in a shooting dog.

Placing second at the Georgia-Florida trial was last year's winner "Sinkola Pal's Image" owned by Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bicknell, Jr., of the Sinkola Plantation near Thomasville, Georgia, and handled by veteran trainer and handler, Bill Taylor. Sinkola Pal's Image was credited with a total of six finds and produced an outstanding and classic forward hunt. The second place dog was in all possibility a bigger running dog than the winner and given the opportunity might be a very strong contender in an Open All-Age stake.

The first and second place dogs were brace mates during the trial and between the two dogs they located a total of eleven coveys of quail during a half hour hunting time. The two pointers set a standard that was never quite equaled during the field trial, however, the third place dog "Loveridge Queen" owned by George H. Love and handled by A. M. McGrady of Miccosukee, Florida, was hot on the heels of the other dogs with a very stylish performance and was a credit to both her owner and handler.

The gallery that followed this year's trial was slightly reduced from that of previous years probably due to the weather that threatened rain during the entire trial. With an early morning fog and an overcast during the trial the weatherman did, however, nod in favor of the dogs and provided only one

shower and that during the noon time lunch break so that only owners, handlers and gallery got wet and the dogs remained dry. Even with a reduced gallery more than a hundred enthusiasts followed the field activity mounted on horseback, hunting hacks and four wheel drive vehicles.

During the trial which actually amounted to four and one half hours of hunting time, a total of fifty-three coveys of quail were located and each dog had ample opportunity to display his ability and training on bird work. During the heat immediately following lunch, the dogs located so many birds there was little opportunity for them to hunt as birds seemed to be everywhere and it seemed as though one dog was always on point.

The Georgia-Florida is somewhat different from other bird dog field trials and to better understand the basis for judging, we are reproducing here the standard of instructions for the judges and handlers.

Instructions

Judges

1. Judges should make their selection of first, second, and third places solely on the basis of dogs they prefer to shoot over on the same general type of terrain as the trial course.
2. In the interest of using the minimum amount of acreage during a trial, the judges shall require handlers to thoroughly hunt the entire width of course.

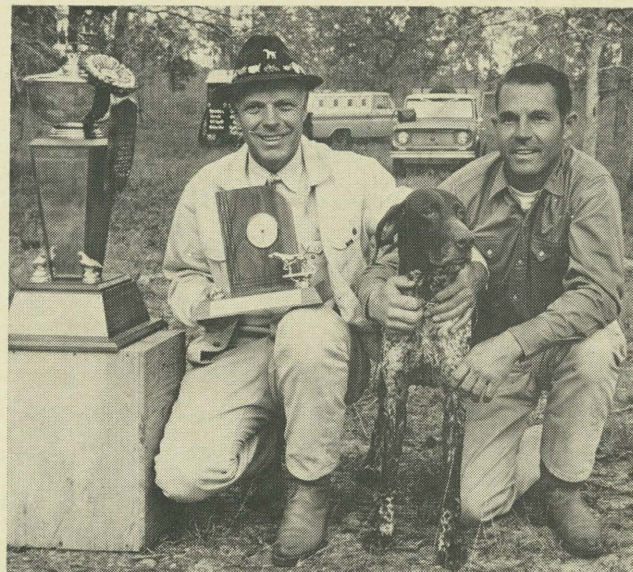
Handlers

1. Handlers may ask the judges to instruct the guides to slow down the pace or the marshalls to slow down the field if they feel the pace too fast or that the field is pressing too close to give their dog a fair opportunity.
2. Out-riders are prohibited, on the theory that each handler should be able without assistance to handle one dog and handlers shall have only one mounted attendant.
3. When the handler flushes his birds, he will face the birds and fire his gun promptly after the flush. The dog shall be within reasonable distance from the point of flush.



River Bend Sam, winner of the 74th annual Georgia-Florida Field Trial, with trainer Terrell Dixon.

A Florida owned German Short-Haired Pointer was named top dog of his breed in the 1964 All-American Sporting Dog Award program of SPORTS AFIELD magazine. "Moesgaard's Dandy" is shown, below, with owner Dr. L. L. Kline, of Orlando, left, and trainer Don Spreadbury.



4. Handlers will give commands to their dogs when needed, but unnecessary shouting or whistling to distract competing dog will count against the entry.
5. The dogs will be handled as with a shooting party and not a competition.

Continental Championship

A DIRECT CONTRAST to the Georgia-Florida Field Trial is the Continental Open and Derby Championship stake which began January 18, on the famous Dixie Plantation which lies almost across the road from the Pinckney Hill Plantation. This year's Continental trial was the 70th annual event and is considered one of the oldest field trials in the country.

The Continental is in every respect exactly what the name implies, a championship stake and the dogs running this trial are of the highest calibre in the nation. Dogs competing in the Open are required to run a one hour qualifying heat and dogs selected by the judges as finalist may be required to run for more than an hour.

This year's Continental trial saw a total of seventy-nine pointers and one setter entered in the Open Championship stake, and thirty-two pointers and two setters entered in the Open Derby Championship. Sixteen pointers and the single setter, "Flaming Star" which placed third at the Northwest Florida inaugural trial in December, were selected by the judges as finalist for the one hour and fifty minute heats.

Emerging as top dog of the Continental Open Championship was "Red Water Rex" a white and liver pointer owned by E. B. Alexander, Jr., and W. T. Pruitt of Jackson, Mississippi. The winner was handled by Hoyle Eaton the professional trainer from Booneville, Mississippi. Red Water Rex located a single find during the qualifying heat and

was called back for the finals by the judges to score eleven finds during the one hour and fifty minute final hunt, on January 25, the second week of the trial.

Winning the Continental Derby Championship was another dog handled by professional trainer Hoyle Eaton. "Our Nominee" a classy white and liver colored female pointer proved to be an outstanding young bird dog by marking up a score of five coveys during her one hour heat. The new Derby Champion is owned by Ray Barto of Seatonville, Illinois.

Region 3 Amateur Championship

DECEMBER 14-15 saw the running of the Region 3 Amateur Championship stake for 1964 on the field trial ground of the Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area near Punta Gorda, Florida.

Riding the judicial saddles at the running of the Region 3 Amateur Championship were Frank Cummins of Orlando and Dan Sheridan Jr. of Ponte Vedra. The judges' decision and announcement of the new Region 3 Amateur Champion "Meador's Lucky Star" owned and handled by R. H. (Dick) Pritchett of Fort Myers drew the hearty approval of handlers and gallery.

Runner-up at the trial was the brace mate of the winner "Weems Florida Ranger" owned by Earl Weems and handled by Ted Baker.

Meador's Lucky Star located one covey at the half
(Continued on page 31)

I HAVE THE FEELING I've been here before because several years ago I wrote an article for Florida Wildlife on about the same subject.

In the meantime, Florida fish haven't changed their habits enough to make the first dirge out of date but I've talked to a lot of fishermen since then and although I may not know any more about tackle, I know a heck of a lot better what other people want to know about tackle.

In ten years the fishermen have changed. Yesterday's specialist, the true school bass fisherman, has almost disappeared. The plastic worm isn't just another bait now; it's a way of fishing.

I think the crappie catches are better because there are more crappie experts. An increased number of bluegill fishermen use small artificials instead of worms or crickets. A lot of bass fishermen have

**There are many factors to consider
when selecting angling needs
for Florida's variety fishing**

discovered the same tackle will work on salt water species and have "doubled their pleasure" as the television commercial suggests.

The Rapala balsa plug and its procession of imitations have become firmly entrenched. And strangely, there are some fishermen who are insisting on wooden plugs rather than plastics. And the shoreline plug caster seems about to follow the school bass fisherman into history.

My favorite current trend is the tendency for the angler, especially the spin fisherman, to look around and start learning some other methods.

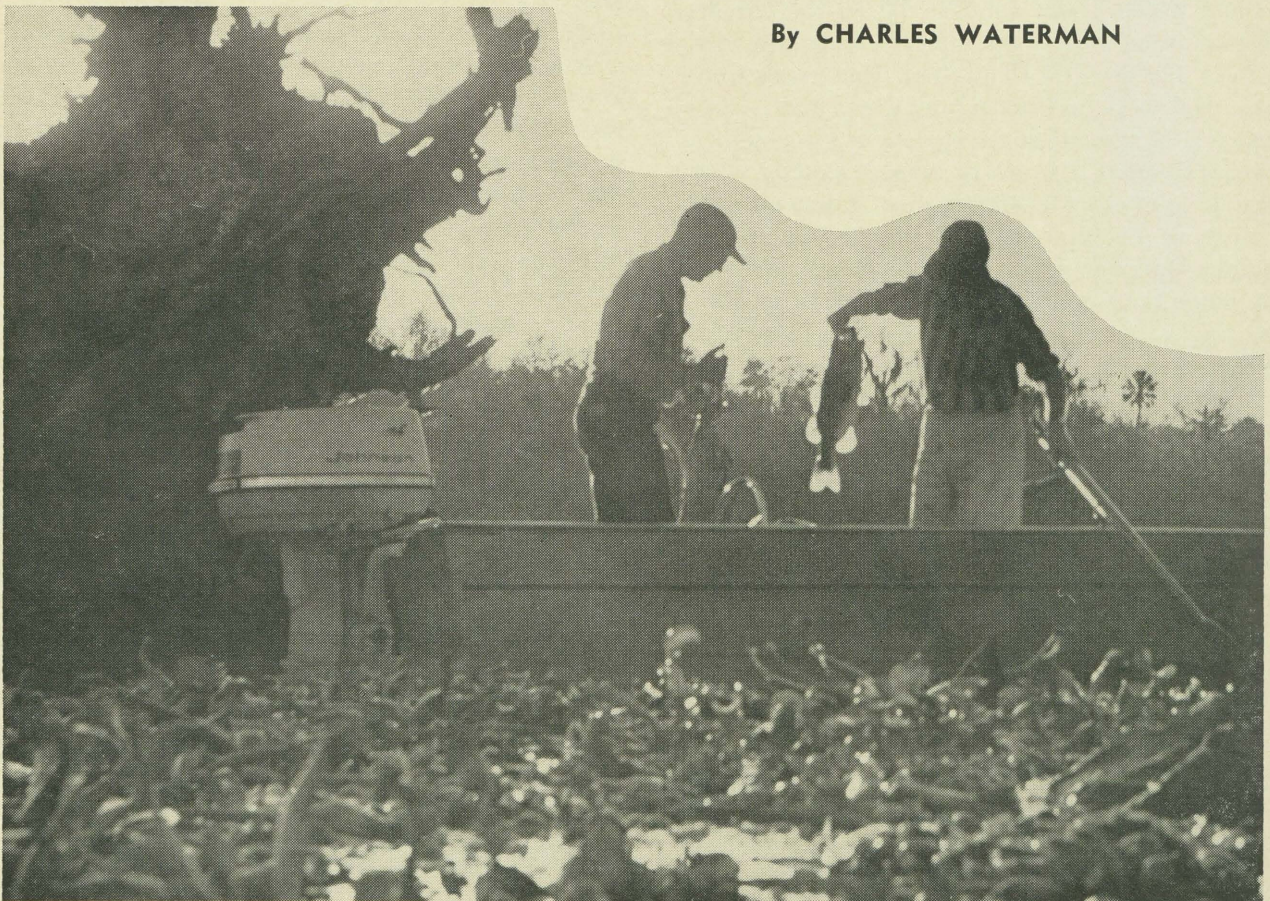
Being a fly fishing nut, I am gratified at the number of inquiries I get on that subject. Only one out of ten fly rod buyers is going to learn to use it, I suppose, but bless the ten percent.

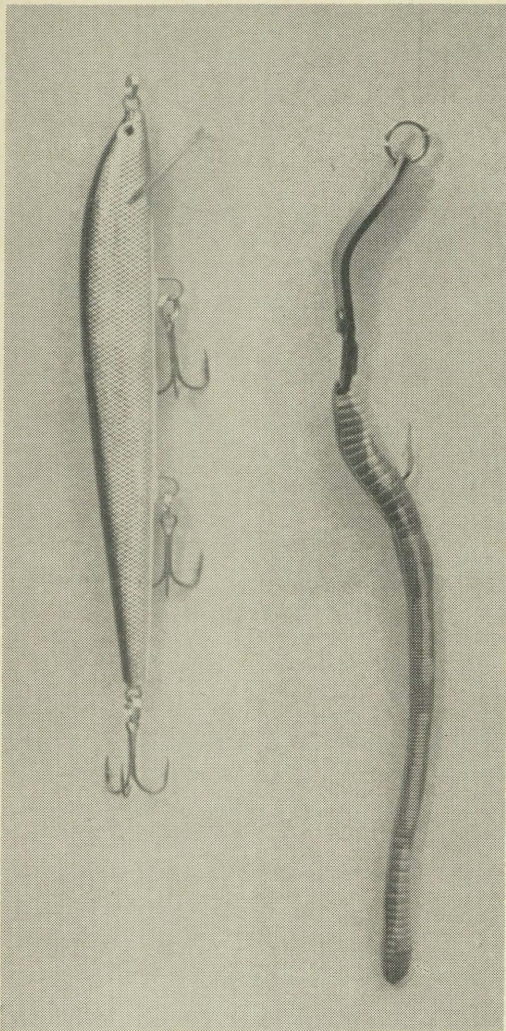
A questionable trend came with the turn toward family and "cruising" boats, making the oar a period piece and causing a new race of contortionists who fish through a steering wheel, over a windshield and around a top.

But, happily, anglers bruised by chromed tailfins

TACKLE FOR FLORIDA

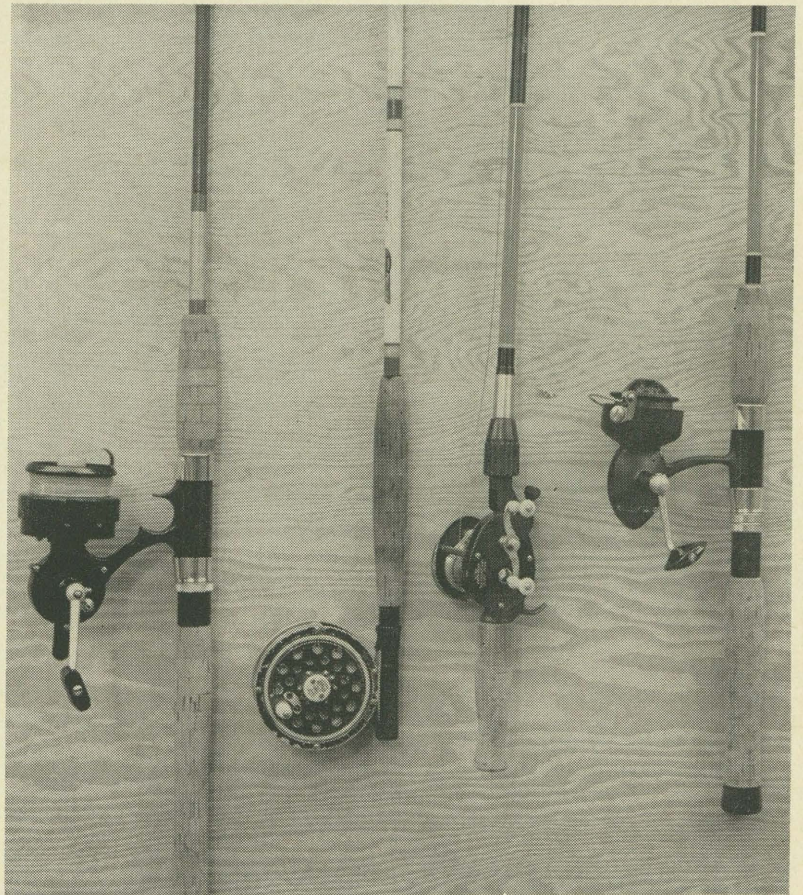
By **CHARLES WATERMAN**





The two big items in bass lures for the past ten years are the plastic worm, shown here with a metal mouthpiece for casting tackle, and the balsa wood Rapala and its imitations.

Essential outfits for covering most of the Florida fishing scene. From left: a heavy duty reel (Centaure Pacific) and a fairly heavy spinning rod for one or two-hand use on jetties and piers; a medium weight flyrod and large-size single-action Pflueger Medalist fly reel that will handle all but the heaviest Florida fish; a direct-drive South Bend baitcasting reel on a lightweight plugging outfit; the medium-weight all-purpose spinning reel, in this case an Orvis 300.



and blinded by whipping pennants are asking for real fishing boats and the manufacturers are responding with some daisies. The two-boat family is with us.

The car-top boat gave way before the trailered boat and then bounced back as standard equipment for house trailer vacationists.

The spincast or push button reel grew up and we got rid of some real nightmares there. Can you recall the ones that twisted the line with every retrieve? A certain number of casts and you took the line off and started over again—or threw the whole danged thing away.

Since I wrote that other article about Florida tackle, free-spooling casting reels have been manufactured by most of the big companies. Monofilament line has become extremely popular with conventional reel users—mainly because it's been greatly improved in casting qualities.

Some "trick" actions have been adopted by rod manufacturers—mainly very light tips attached to

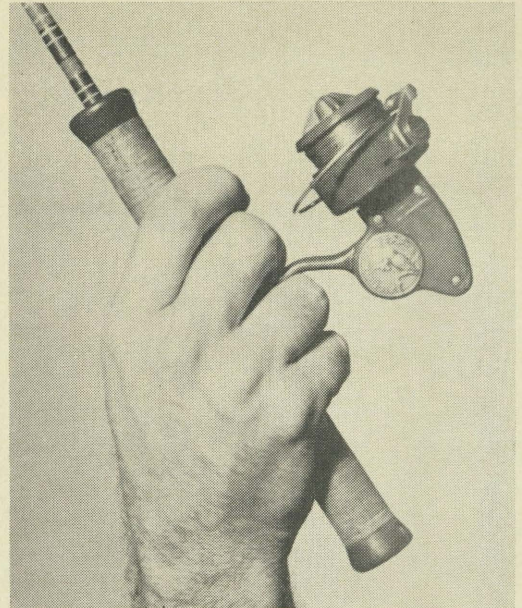
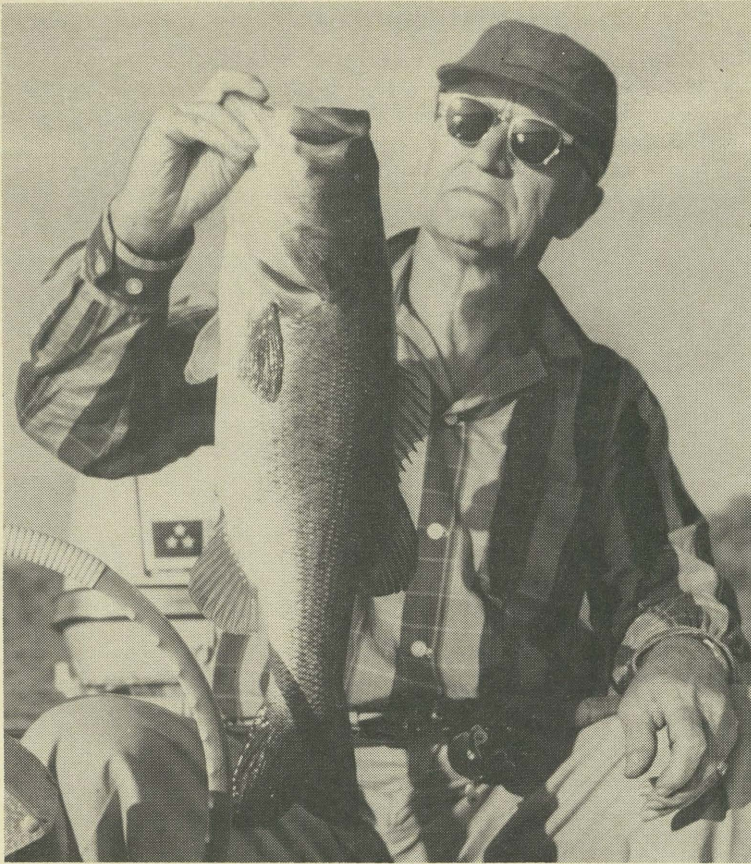
stiff butt sections. I don't like these very well but they're compromise rods and one of them will get by with a wide variety of lure weights (or line weights in case of a fly rod). Experienced fishermen are not too happy with "all around rods."

Glass rods have become so competitively inexpensive in the cut rate stores that you don't see many really first line sticks on the shelves. I'm still not satisfied with the quality of most of the production handles, reel seats and ferrules because they've been made to meet prices.

Spinning reels have had a boost in quality and discerning dealers are inclined to stick to the ones they can service. I'm all for it from a user's standpoint. I am aware that it might be hard to start a new reel, however good, unless the parts problem could be solved promptly—tough duty for the new builder or importer.

My purpose now is to advise the newcomer to Florida fishing as to just what tackle he can use.

(Continued on next page)



Prime target of a large share of Florida fishermen is the black bass. The one at left was caught on a plug and weighs six pounds. If the fisherman wants real extra-light spinning tackle and a true miniature reel, the Alcedo Micron, above, is an excellent, though rather expensive selection.

(Continued from preceding page)

Perhaps some of my wisdom will be absorbed by older residents though most of them will scorn my efforts.

We'll begin with the basic spinning rod with open-faced spool. I seldom use spinning tackle (to the disgust of more modern anglers) but I'd be the first to say the spinning rod comes nearest to an all-round outfit.

The open-faced reel is not quite so quickly mastered as the pushbutton. It is generally simpler and more durable and generally more usable in salt water. For the most part, open reels have better drags for heavy fishing. A medium-sized one will handle anything from stumpknockers to kingfish if you're careful and have two or three spools of various line strengths.

In the medium-priced range, nearly all of the open-faced reels or "coffee-grinders" are well built. There are some very cheap imports that are imitations of well-known reels and won't take the gaff. You can spot them pretty easily. There are dozens of good reels and, fortunately, most serious tackle dealers have one or more good ones they push and prefer to service.

The "manual" type is the one without a bail and you use your finger to pick up the line and put it over a roller. This gets spinning reels down about as simple as they can be had. Still, there is a little knack to picking up the line each time and most

fishermen are too lazy to learn. Bails are greatly improved but still the chief cause of spinning reel trouble.

Salt water can wreck almost any reel. I once dunked a brand new spinning reel of popular make in some very salty Florida Keys water and forgot what had happened. Instead of tearing the thing down immediately I simply rinsed it off as usual and put it away. When I got it out again in a couple of weeks it took a repairman to get it going again.

It is the salt water fish that tear up poor drags. Black bass are tough and pull hard but they don't whistle off through the water the way salt water fish do. A reel that will land big bass for years might give up the ghost on its first bonefish.

The big thing in spinning reels is the pushbutton—simplest of all to operate. I don't show it in my illustration of basic Florida fishing gear but, if you like it, it can be substituted for the medium spinning reel. Its use can be learned in minutes.

It is not quite as accurate as other tackle but the "pencil sharpener" does not require much physical effort. I don't recommend it for salt water, although I know one owner who uses it in the salt, tearing it down and cleaning it carefully each night. If you're willing to take the extra care, the closed reel will work. Don't compare our current crop with some of the earlier closed-face models that would rain parts as soon as a big fish took off.

If you want a complete Florida fishing outfit, you

should have plug casting tackle. A five to 6-foot casting rod and an appropriate casting reel—either one of the light, fast, conventional ones or a free-spooler (handle disengages as you cast). A plug caster is likely to regard spin-fishing as a sports car driver views an automatic transmission.

A plugging outfit give you excellent control of your lure, allows you more accuracy than spinning and will throw farther if you run it right. It works with much heavier lures.

Unless your reel is a free-spooler you won't do so well on salt water fish. The cub type handle that provides a slip-clutch simply isn't as efficient as drags that were made on purpose.

The plug rod should be stiff enough to handle a $\frac{5}{8}$ -ounce lure. Either it or the medium spinning outfit will work live bait.

Baitcasting tackle isn't too good for panfish. By the time you get enough weight to cast smoothly, the lure is too big for crappie or bluegills. When I was a kid I caught a lot of panfish on a casting outfit, using worms with a heavy float for a casting weight. It didn't compare to the efficiency of spinning or fly tackle.

One flyrod will do very nicely for all Florida fishing unless you go in for 100-pound tarpon. Although the real fly-fishing enthusiast will have from three to 20 flyrods, he'll admit he could get by without most of them.

An extremely light fly rod is nice for panfish but something huskier is almost as much fun. If you'll get an eight or 8½-foot rod that will handle a fairly heavy weight-forward tapered line and then match it with a single-action reel, you're pretty well set. Tapered leaders will help but aren't a necessity.

The outfit I refer to will handle bass bugs, panfish bugs and flies and medium-sized salt water streamers.

I confess the automatic reel can be extremely convenient for bass or panfishing but it won't stand

the runs of fast and heavy fish, costs just as much as a single-action and is much more complicated.

There are some spots where the automatic is definitely superior—as in the various roadside ditches and canals. It keeps your line out from under foot and the fish in those places can't run very far. Like the closed spinning reel, it requires considerable care in salt water.

Rod length and action can start all kinds of loud arguments. Perhaps the extremes can be found in salt water areas where one fellow swears by a soft, slow 9½-footer and other guys use a fast, 7-footer, so stiff you could almost vault with it. Although one fishing authority swears an 8-footer is the only length a sensible soul will use, I prefer the 8½-footer and think you'll be happiest between eight and nine feet. As I said earlier, I don't care for the light tip and stiff butt action but most of the rest of the world seems to be buying it.

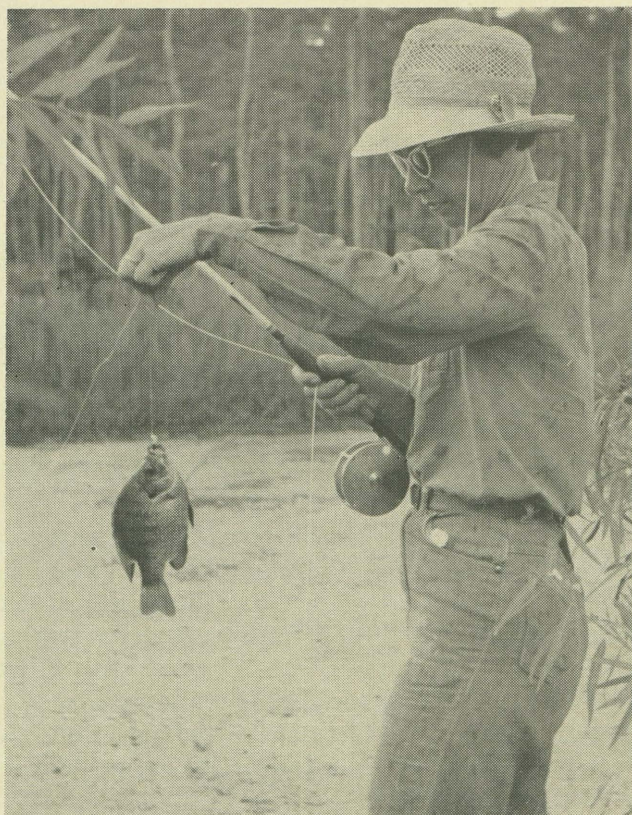
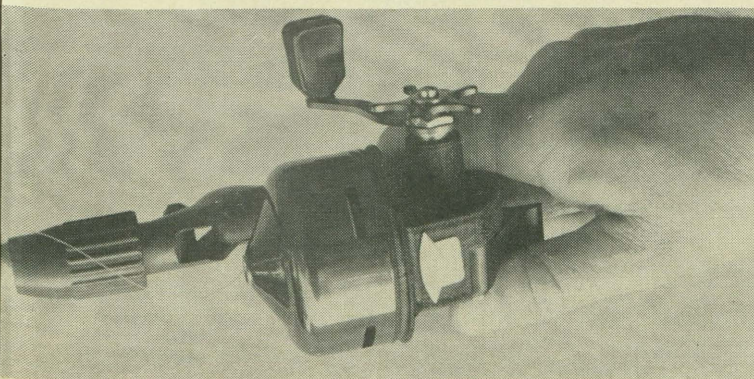
We don't have much surf fishing in the sense that they have it in New England. The true surf rod is scarce on Florida coasts. Bridge and pier fishermen here use everything from true surf sticks to stiff boat or trolling rods and big, heavy duty reels that are out of place about nine-tenths of the time. A lot of 10-inch whiting are caught on tackle intended for sailfish and a few black bass fishermen use salt water gear for chucking big shiners.

The heavy stuff is more appropriate in the latter job than most of the salt water tasks it's used for.

Much of the jetty and inlet fishing around Florida

(Continued on next page)

A rainy day panfish, right, that took a little popping bug fished with a medium-weight fly rod. An ultra-light rod might be slightly better for bream, but the medium weight one is satisfactory. One of the better of the current crop of closed-face pushbutton spin reels is the Abu-Matic, below, sold by Garcia. Note that thumb piece is offset, to the left, for increased comfort.



(Continued from preceding page)

requires long casts at times and a true surf stick would be ideal. I note that most of these long-casters prefer big salt water spinning reels and long, stiff rods—even though the conventional turning spool surf outfit will get more distance most of the time.

Anyway, I'll recommend that the beginner in that kind of fishing try a medium heavy spinning rig. The one shown in the accompanying illustration looks pretty potent for fresh water and it is but it won't be as large as most of the heavy outfits found near salt water. It is not a surf outfit but it would work for a lot of inlet fishing, can be used from bridges and piers and will give you some fun when worked offshore against kings or mackerel. You can catch a sail with it if you're careful.

Most charter or party boats will furnish tackle. To say that the four outfits I have listed will give you a perfect setup is not quite true but you can get by very nicely with them in spite of some compromises.

A specialist might have three or four spinning rods and no plug rods. The plugger might have only baitcasting outfits and the fly fisherman would leave the fish in the water if they don't take flies. But the combinations I've named will serve the serious fisherman who wants to sample all of it.

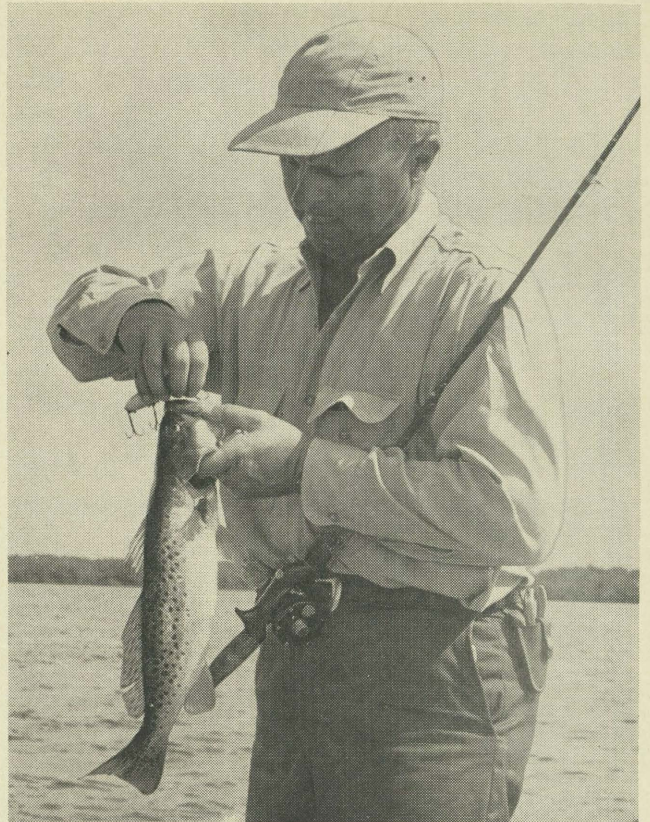
Florida bass take about the same lures that bass take elsewhere. Generally, a specific type of bass lure becomes popular in a given area because it adapts to the local water conditions.

For example, a wiggling plug with a metal lip might catch all sorts of bonnet bass if you could keep it from getting hung up but something else is more popular because of the stems.

The Johnson weedless spoons, generally with some sort of porkrind or imitation porkrind added, are tops in weed-filled waters in Florida. Of late, the Weedwing, a spoon with attached spinner and weed guard, is a success.

In the grassy waters, I have found the old Hawaiian Wiggler to be about as good as anything for large fish. I use it with plastic skirt and a trailer hook for short strikes. It is more fun to fish surface baits and sometimes the old-fashioned torpedo plug with spinners fore and aft is hard to beat, especially over grass.

The elongated surface plug with spinners has taken hold in recent years. Generally it is designed to sit with its bow out of water until you twitch it. Then it throws a little splatter of water with a tail spinner. I've used several of them, the first being a Porter Spindle. I suspect some of the newer models are imitations of it and I caught some nice bass on a Spindle yesterday.



Fresh water tackle is ideal for spotted weakfish (salt water trout). This fisherman is using an Ambassadeur free-spooling reel and bass plug.

Ten years ago the "black eel" was getting its start and was forerunner of the plastic worm. The plastic worm has given rise to plastic lizards, snakes and all sorts of other squishy delicacies but the main development of late is in new ways of fishing it.

They've fixed it so it can be worked rapidly through grass or bonnets with a metal lip ahead of it; they've made some models weedless and some worm fishermen have done a fine job of operating on top. Some of them are big enough to work on baitcasting rods and I've even thrown a small one with a fly rod but don't recommend it.

The favored way is still the bottom method, giving a snoopy bass plenty of time to cram the thing into his mouth before you lean on him.

I'd say that the medium spinning rig is No. 1 for worm fishing.

In buying lures, there's a tendency to get everything in the same classification. That is, you find one that works and stock your box with others only slightly different. You'll save money and catch more fish if you mix them up as to surface, near-surface and deep runners with some special choices for weedy and brushy waters.

Small jigs have been increasingly popular for

(Continued on page 32)

The alligator boasts an ancient ancestry, and as a valuable natural resource it should be managed the same as other species of wildlife.

A Wildlife Research Report

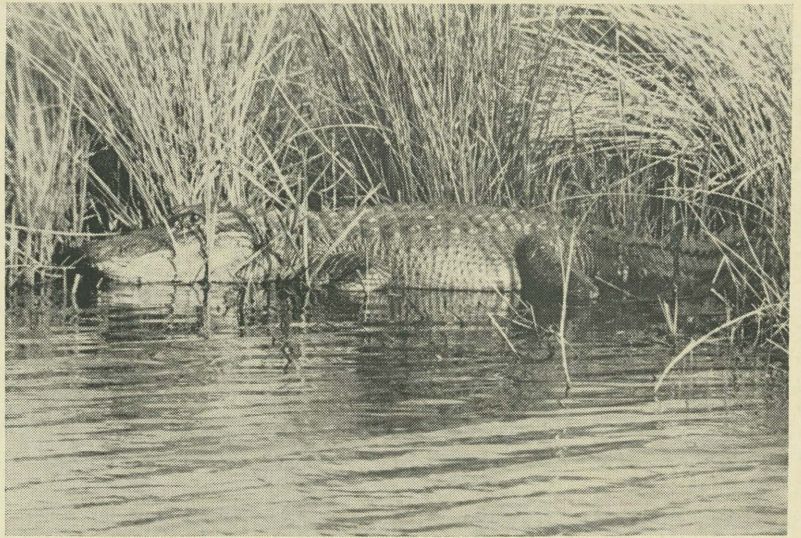


Photo By Wallace Hughes

Florida's Valuable Alligator

PITY THE POOR gator, since he is probably the victim of more imagination and less real knowledge than any other member of Florida's wild kingdom. People either like or dislike the alligator, and an indifferent attitude is rare among those who come in contact with the leviathan.

F. K. Jones and other biologists of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission who have been gathering data on alligators for many years incidental to their work with game and fish, report that the ancestor of the present day alligator first appeared on earth approximately 30 million years ago. His appearance and habits have remained almost unchanged over the years.

The biologists have come to the conclusion that while the alligator is unusual, it should be managed as any other species of wildlife. The alligator, however, should be considered as an economic resource and not as a sporting game animal.

According to Jones, the alligator is a valuable natural resource in many ways. The alligator is a prime tourist attraction, an important ecological factor in maintaining the balance of nature in

Florida's wilderness, and once an important source of revenue to the state. In 1959-60, the last open alligator hunting season, reports indicate that 18,735 alligators over six feet in length found their way to the state's hide dealers.

The present wildlife research program is designed to determine the movement and growth rate of the alligator, the size at sexual maturity, survival rate of the young, the effects of nature on the alligator and its effect on nature, and how to manage the reptile effectively.

"It is essential that we know if a dry or wet season will alter the reproduction of the species or the survival rate of the young. If the advance of civilization is a serious threat to the survival of the species or if a controlled limited harvest would endanger the alligator," said Jones.

When the biologists capture an alligator they weigh and take a total of fifteen different measurements of the captive. The alligator is tagged and then released, and the biologists hope for a later recapture.

According to Jones, the Com-

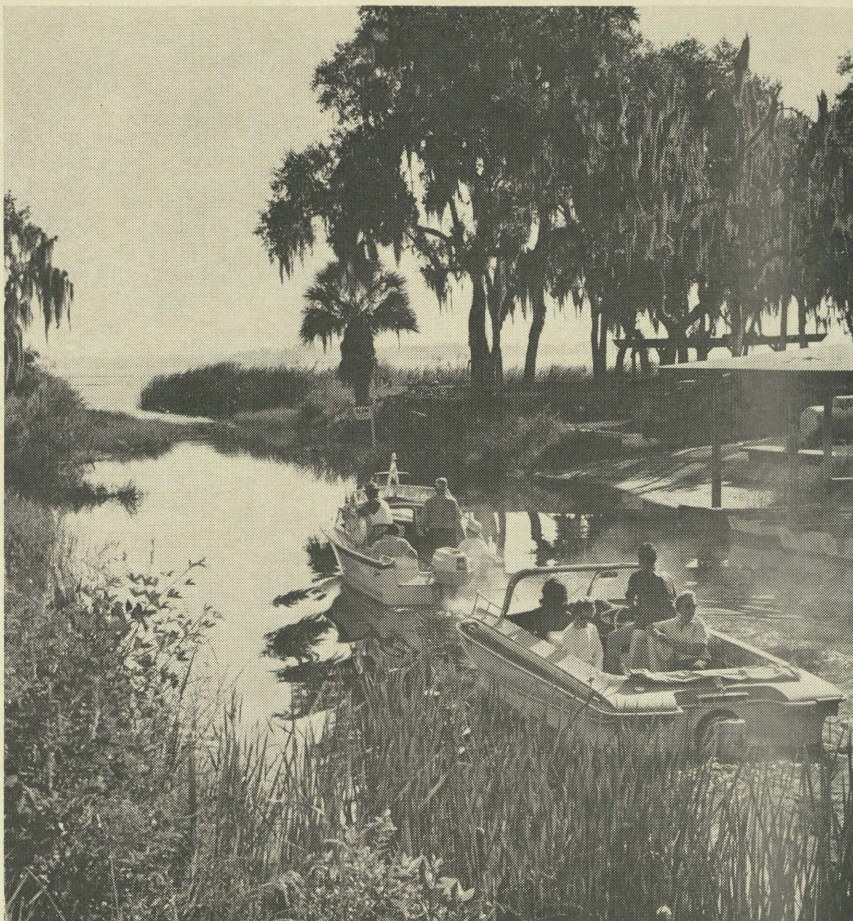
mission has worked for several years developing a tagging system that would provide the wildlife specialists with the needed information. Alligators have had notches cut in their scales, they have been branded, tattooed, and painted, and now many are sporting bright yellow nylon tags in their neck and tail scales as the results of the latest marking system.

In addition to wilderness research, Commission personnel have investigated hundreds of complaints about alligators during the past years. Jones said, "most of the complaints can be classified into three general classes. The first class includes those persons who have little or no information or knowledge about the alligator; the next group are those people who insist on making pets of alligators and in turn the gator loses its natural fear of man; the third group includes those who invade the alligators' natural territory where complications arise from the close association of human dwellings and alligators." As a rule the complaint alligators are captured and moved to a wilderness area for release. ●

Leaving the Twin Palms camp on Lake Griffin early in the morning, right. The photo below shows approach into the narrows of the Oklawaha River leading to Ocala Boat Basin.

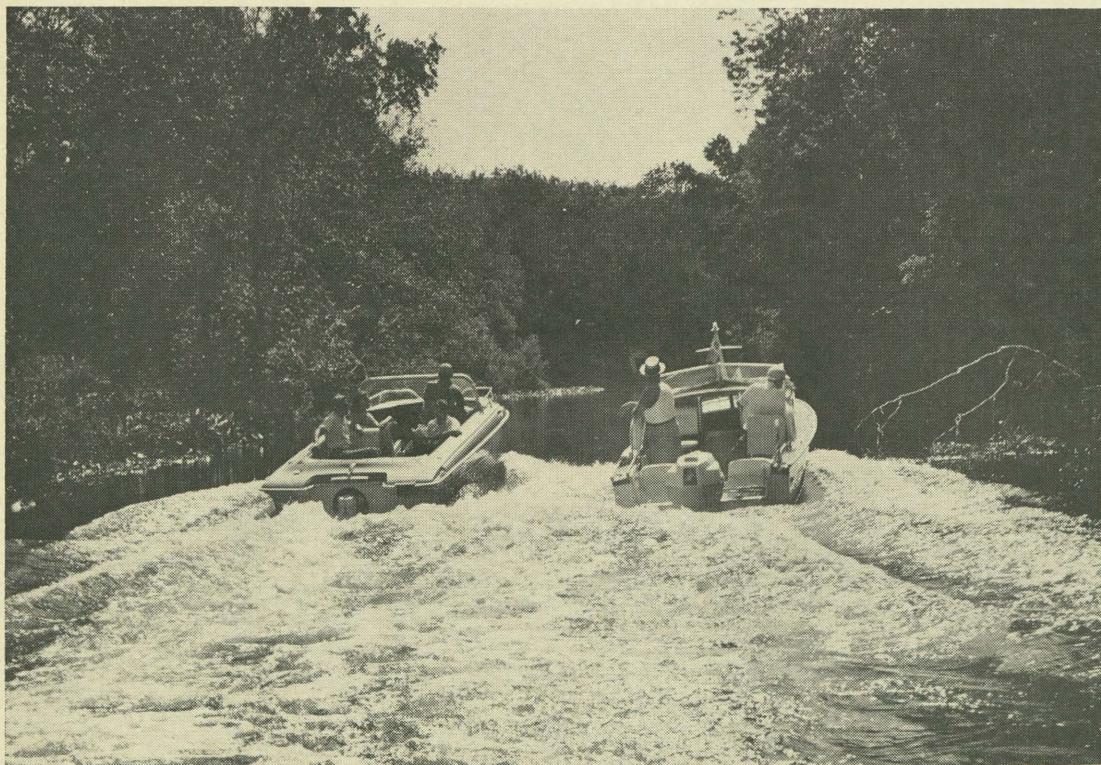
This Florida boating
adventure across the
mid-section of the
state combined both
boating and trailering

By ELGIN WHITE



CROSS - STATE

C R U I S I N G



EVER SINCE the first Seminole Indian pushed his canoe into the rivers and streams of Florida, man has been seeking a route across the state by water.

Man is still seeking, if you don't consider the cross-state route down in southern Florida that leads from Stuart, across Lake Okeechobee, then up the Caloosahatchee River to Fort Myers on the Gulf coast. This is pretty far south, and yachtsmen are looking for something more uptown.

At present, plans have been approved in Congress for the long-sought Florida cross-state barge canal, and work is now underway on this project. When it has been completed, boatmen can traverse the "neck" of the Florida peninsula from the St. Johns River, cross the central plains and hills near Ocala, and out into the Gulf at Yankeetown, using part of the Withlacoochee River.

But as an old Florida "Cracker" might say, "that's a piece away yet."

Meanwhile, back in the world of present-dayness, there is no complete water route across the "neck" or mid-section of Florida, but you can combine boating and trailering across this region that makes for one of the most interesting, beautiful and diverse trips you could want to make.

You can start at Jacksonville, on Florida's mighty St. Johns River, and boat down to Welaka, where the Oklawaha meets the St. Johns. But we started from Welaka because of a time problem.

The trip is not a simple one to make, but it isn't all that hard, either. You can't do it with a single car, trailer and boat . . . or with one or two people. You have to have assistance, and the following description of the journey we made might give you the right idea of just what you will need to make a trailer-boat trip across Florida.

There was quite a party of us making this journey, including Bill Prentiss of Johnson Motors, Dr. and Mrs. Charles Miller of Miami, E. T. Bales, sports editor of the Chattanooga (Tennessee) News-Free Press and his photographer, Delmont Wilson, with their wives and Johnny Johnson, Florida News Bureau photographer and myself.

Not knowing the exact route we must take from our starting point at Sportsman's Lodge on the St. Johns River, we called on Vernon Myers of the Florida Game & Fish Commission and some of his cohorts for guidance through the waters of the famous Oklawaha River.

This magnificent stream, described briefly in *YACHTING* (November, 1963) is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful waterways in the world. Part of

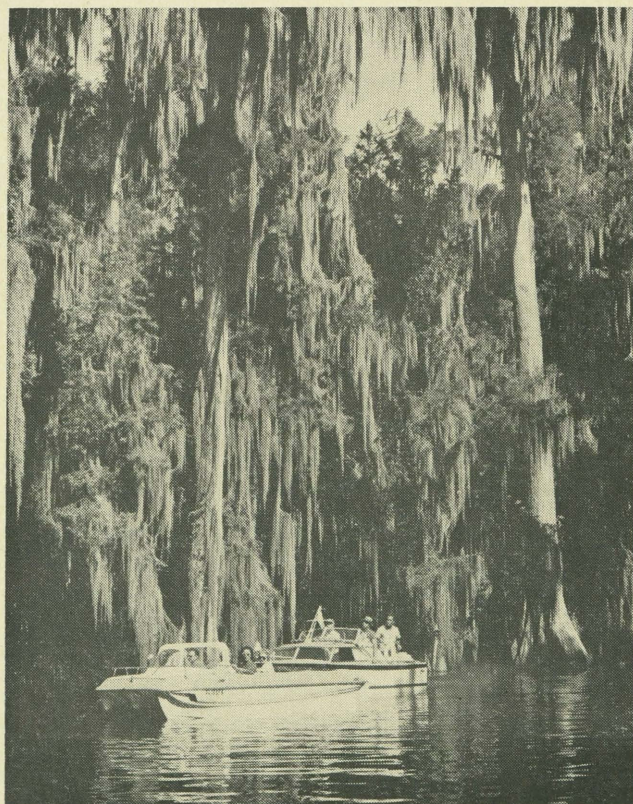
its twisting, snake-like route through the verdant jungles of the Ocala National Forest will be utilized in the cross-state barge canal, but not enough of it to mar its beauty in any way.

It wanders into central Florida all the way into the lake country at Mount Dora and Eustis, which is the route we planned to cover. Unfortunately at the time we made the trip, water levels in the lakes were somewhat low because of an extended dry spell, and one of the locks leading from Oklawaha into Lake Griffin could not be opened to traffic.

In normal water level times, though, the Oklawaha can be followed from its entrance on the St. Johns all the way to Lake Griffin, some 85-100 miles distance. Don't try it, though, unless you are certain of your route. It is easy enough to follow the Oklawaha for the first 60 miles, twisting and turning though it may be, until you reach a fork in the river where it meets the Silver river leading out of Silver Springs. From that point south towards Lake Griffin, careful attention must be paid to main stream water, for there are byways and cut-offs that shoot into the wilderness areas that could lead you back into the jungle.

If you make this trip and can make the entire jaunt into Lake Griffin during a normal or slightly high water condition, it is wise to check the route with either the Florida Game & Fish Commission office in Ocala, or with officials at the Ocala Boat Basin.

Because of the low water conditions, we knew that we would tour the Oklawaha to the Ocala Boat
(Continued on next page)



The cathedral-like stateliness of the Cypress trees in the Dora Canal are a vision of primeval beauty.



LEFT

The entrance to the Dora Canal, connecting Lake Eustis with Lake Dora.

RIGHT

Going into the "Backwater" of the Withlacoochee, leading to the Florida Power Company Dam, cruising with care due to hidden trees and shoals.

Photos By Johnny Johnson
Florida State News Bureau

(Continued from preceding page)

Basin and haul the boats out for an overland trek to Lake Griffin and Leesburg.

Now, with this situation in mind, here's where you're going to need some people and cars and trailers. If you are moving one boat, it is a simple enough problem to solve. You will merely need someone to take your boat and trailer from the starting point at Welaka and move overland to the Ocala Boat Basin. This is accomplished by taking U.S. 17 out of Welaka south to Barberville. From there turn west on State Road 40 to Ocala, a trip of about 45 miles. The Ocala Boat Basin is about three miles east of Silver Springs, however, and you would not go all the way in to Ocala.

We made our arrangements with agents from the Game Commission to move our cars and trailers over to the boat basin, and we took off via the Oklawaha for Ocala.

This 60 mile run is almost indescribable. Going through this country in a boat is like returning to the year One. We travelled for miles around these crooks and turns without a sign of civilization, and the vivid contrasts of deep running, dark water, green foliage and bright blue sky were enough to quicken the pulse of anyone who really enjoys nature in the raw.

About 45 miles up the Oklawaha we encountered a bit of sticky going. This river is quite narrow, and with the quick turns where you almost swear you'll meet yourself coming back, there was an occasional derelict tree that had fallen from its hazardous toe-hold along the bank into the dark waters of the Oklawaha. These derelicts almost blocked the way on three occasions, but we managed to nudge carefully our way around the top portions of the fallen tree, though we did kick up a little silt on two occasions getting through. Watch for these derelicts.

About five miles from the Ocala Boat Basin we put in at a little combination fish camp, rest-stop, marina, and barbecue. It is known as King's Sportsman's Paradise, and it makes a fine stop-over, especially if you have plans to move on south via water to Leesburg and Lake Griffin. And some of the best barbecue you ever laid a tongue to is there for a pittance.

After leaving King's, we made a wide sweep in the river and ran into the point of confluence of the Oklawaha and Silver rivers. A big sign on a tree on the south bank pointed the route to Leesburg, but we kept our course on up the Silver for another few hundred yards and took the canal on the starboard side of the river that led us into the basin.

The Ocala Boat Club has excellent facilities here. Two fine launching ramps, a big dock, gasoline, and large picnic tables feature the cleared area.

Our boys with the cars and trailers were waiting for us, and in short order, we had the boats trailered and headed west toward Ocala and Leesburg.

We passed through world famous Silver Springs, and just to the west took a cut-off road that led into State Road 131. This in turn took us to US 301 at Lady Lake, and from there we went into Twin Palms Camp, an excellent fishing resort on State Road 466 just north of Leesburg on Lake Griffin.

Should your safari be a family affair and mom and the kids are the ones moving the car, this would be a top spot to make an overnight stop. Large, beautiful cabins, all air-conditioned, and a huge screened swimming pool should feature all the inducements to attract young eyes and hearts.

Our evening repast at Leesburg was most pleasant, especially since the Game Commission boys rounded up some top flight Florida oysters and prepared them as only fellows like that know how.

We put the boats into the slip at Twin Palms



Right, entering the straightaway on the Beauclair Canal.



camp early the next morning, and moved them around to the gasoline supply station. In addition to being an excellent resort, Twin Palms has all the necessary ingredients for boatmen and fishermen, for this is magnificent black bass country.

Leaving the camp, our cohorts with the cars moved on southward to meet us at the municipal ramp in Winter Garden.

We headed east across Lake Griffin and entered the Haines Canal, which is a long, narrow waterway loaded on each bank with water hyacinths. Midway through Haines Creek we reached Burrell locks, one of two we would encounter on this trip. A quick toot on the horn brought the attendant to the lock and we were raised to the other side in short order.

After getting through the lock we emerged into Lake Eustis, which is a small lake in this rather intriguing chain of waterways. At the southern end of Lake Eustis we entered what has aptly been described by many boatmen as the "most beautiful boating mile in the world."

It is the fabulous Dora Canal, that winds for exactly one mile between Lake Eustis and Lake Dora. And when you see it, you'll have to agree . . . it truly is "the most beautiful boating mile in the world."

You simply have to see the Dora Canal to believe it. Tall, stately cypress trees rise from the black waters to form a wall of primeval stillness on either side of the canal. Spanish moss hangs from every limb in gray lace. And the bright green tips of the trees etched against the blue sky literally sang a symphony of majestic beauty.

As we moved ever so slowly through the canal, we took in every sight around us. Occasionally, back among the cypress stumps deep into the forest we could see a small boat and a hunched-over fisherman, but he, too, seemed a part of the forgotten eons of the past.

The trees and moss made us feel as if we were entering one of Nature's own cathedrals, and the rays of sunlight breaking through the moss created patterns of haze that actually gave the entire area an aura of spiritual sanctity.

Though we were scarcely moving, that mile through the Dora Canal was all too short, and soon we emerged into full sunlight onto Lake Dora.

A straight shot across the lake brought us to the high bluffs of Mount Dora, which typifies this part of Florida. Though most people look upon the peninsula state as rather flat, this particular section is quite hilly, and the bluffs of Mount Dora are ringed with beautiful homes.

If you make this trip on your own, without someone along who knows the country, it would be a good idea to pull into the fine fish camp on the extreme south end of Lake Dora and get instructions on reaching the entrance to the Beauclair Canal.

We had to move into the Beauclair in order to reach Lake Apopka, which led us into Winter Garden, our next trailering point.

In the Beauclair canal we encountered the second set of locks about midway, and moved through these with the same ease in which we had passed through the locks in Haines Creek.

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It is a pretty good run of about six miles across Lake Apopka, and we headed due south, which took us to the launching ramp where our land-bound friends were waiting to meet us.

In short order we had the boats out of the water and on the trailers. Then began what proved to be our longest land-haul of the journey. We had originally planned to put the boats back in some 20 miles away on the Withlacoochee River near State Road 50 at Ridge Manor.

However, we faced the same low water problems in the lower reaches of the Withlacoochee that we faced on the Oklawaha, and Vernon Myers suggested that we trailer all the way up to Dunnellon, about 80 miles northwest on US 41.

Since we had no choice, we packed away and took off for Dunnellon. It took us about two hours to make it pulling the three boats, and when we arrived at the launching ramp at the bridge just as you enter Dunnellon from the south, we found another Game Commission agent there waiting for us.

We got our heads together with him, as he knew every log and pole that might be sticking its head through the water on this section of the Withlacoochee.

Now hear this, should you plan this trip: This particular part of the run, from Dunnellon west on the Withlacoochee to the Florida Power Corporation Dam is *extremely* tricky. Running the bends of the Withlacoochee itself is not trouble, but when you approach what they call "the backwater" leading into the dam, then extreme caution must be exercised.

We were most fortunate to have an expert with us who knew the way. We could have made it without him, but we most likely would have become a

cropper one or two times on sunken trees and logs.

The waters between Dunnellon and the Florida Power Dam are known to fishermen the world over. Since the dam was put there, the "backwater" has created a virtual fishing paradise in big black bass and pan fish, and small outboards ply these waters constantly.

But a small fishing outboard is no family cruiser.

Unlike modern man-made reservoirs, none of the vegetation was removed from the area when the dam was built. Today we have the equivalent of a sunken forest which can be navigated by expert guides or with extreme caution.

But the run up the Withlacoochee into the dam's backwaters is absolutely magnificent in scenic beauty. Though wild in appearance, the river has a more tropical look than the foliage and flora and fauna we encountered on the Oklawaha. Tall-stemmed palm trees and lush tropical greenery crowded the banks of the water, and as we made our way towards the "backwater" we passed many fine homes and small camps and fishing villages along the route.

Another thing to remember about making this run if you plan to move on along the Withlacoochee to Yankeetown and the Gulf of Mexico as we did . . . you will have to pull out at the dam. There is a lock at the dam, but the Florida Power Corporation prefers not to use it as it takes more than 24 hours to fill it. Best procedure is to notify the superintendent at the Florida Power Corporation dam at Yankeetown at least three days prior to your arrival. Company personnel will make arrangements to take your boat out and move it around the dam and place it in the water on the other side, a procedure that takes but a few moments.

As we neared the wide expanses of the "backwater," our guide kept a close watch for the rather crude markers posted here and there on stark trees that would lead us into the channel. We slowed to a crawl at this point, and eased around the trees in a zig-zag route that led us nearer and nearer the dam.

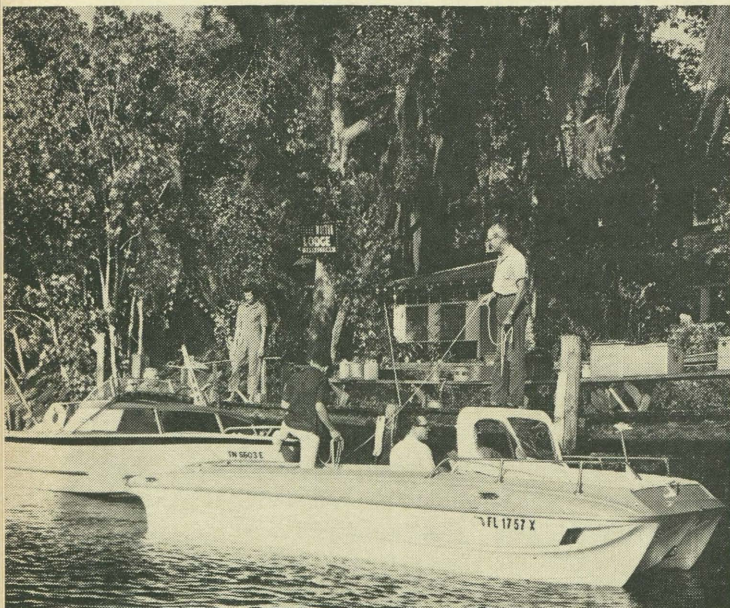
We did run into another small problem as we neared the earthen south section of the dam. The ramp where we were to pull out and move around to the other side of the river was jammed with water lettuce. This close "kissin' cousin" kin to water hyacinths was packed in against the shore, and all we could do was batten down and plow through 'em. This we did and managed to get to the ramp with little difficulty.

After moving across to the other side of the dam, we moved on up the next six miles of the Withlacoochee to the Izaak Walton Lodge, where our genial hosts, Gayle and Bud Finley were expecting us.

It is only another four miles or so from the Izaak

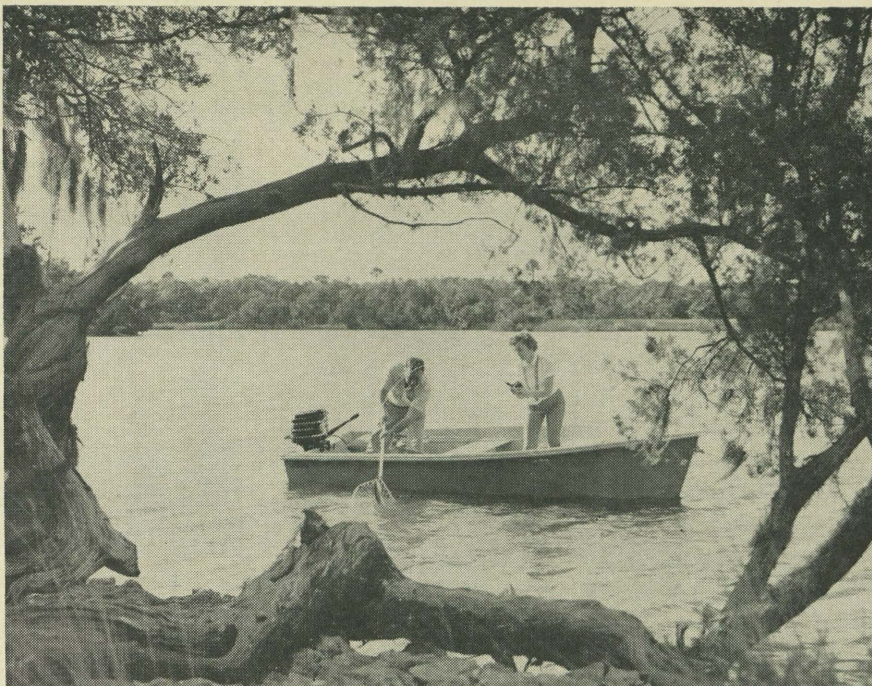
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Our genial hosts as we pulled into the Izaak Walton Lodge at Yankeetown were Gayle and Bud Finley.



Spring fishing on rivers such as the Homosassa on Florida's west coast, offer excellent combination angling thrills during the mild pre-summer months. In addition to fresh water panfish and bass, salt water species can be found around the brackish water line, especially speckled trout.

Spring Fishing



Spring fishing for lunker bass in the southern part of the state usually lasts until early May, and continues through June in the northern section.

FLORIDA BASS fishing covers the calendar but this time of year furnishes the tallest stories of all.

Spring may not be the best bass fishing time but it's trophy fish time and the cracker adage that "fishing starts when the tourists leave" doesn't fit here.

How big? Well, don't count on a 10-pounder although they sometimes come bigger. Where do you go for one that size? Central Florida's lake and river country is the best bet for busters although North or South Florida often leads in numbers.

How do you catch a real bucket-puss? Well, probably live bait fishermen get most of them—and this time of year the shiners used for bait put up a pretty good scrap themselves. Some of them are 10 inches long.

It's the lady bass that put on weight. A male seldom gets more than five pounds. Most of the grandma bass caught this time of year are thinking of starting a new family of 10,000 or so and they're barging around shallow, sandy areas, maybe where water grass is pretty thick. They're hungry and they rile easily.

It's time for big baits and sometimes the wilder your lure looks

the better. Some of the concoctions wired together for late winter bass are frightening even to their inventors.

Florida's largemouth bass waters are big but there's generally shelter available in case of a little wind. Bass fishing doesn't require a large craft—or a big motor.

Thousands of fishermen's boats come to Florida on trailers or on top of automobiles and they range from yachts to kayaks but anglers who like to travel light will find an outboard of five horsepower or more will get them to the state's biggest bass with a rental skiff. Some experts say that one around 10 horsepower is ideal—enough power and not too heavy. Bass waters are lined with rental boats which must meet state safety requirements.

Even a bass expert is likely to profit through use of a guide. With so many good-looking spots, there couldn't possibly be enough bass to populate *ALL* of them.

The really sneaky way is to hire a guide for a couple of days and then go out on your own after you have the hang of it.

Ultra-light tackle is a lot of fun on bass but at this time of year maybe you'd better beef it up a little. ●

Outdoor Recreation

Family Style

For An Ideal Vacation

Gold Head Branch State Park



Gold Head Branch State Park provides relaxing facilities for the perfect family vacation. Besides boating, fishing and swimming, the park rents cottages and camping sites.

ONE OF FLORIDA's most complete state parks is Gold Head Branch, located about 40 miles southwest of Jacksonville on State Road 21.

At this park, noted for its spring-fed lakes and rolling hills, visitors may enjoy picnicking, boating, swimming, camping, water skiing, hiking, nature study, vacation cottages and sight seeing.

This 1,338-acre park derives its name from Gold Head Branch, the spring-fed stream that meanders along the bottom of a beautiful Ravine through which a nature trail winds. Visitors can drive right up to the head of the Ravine and look down into it, sixty-five feet below. The stream varies in width from three to ten feet, with crystal clear water flowing over a bed of white sand.

The Ravine starts with a deep bowl at the bottom of which is a clear spring and fern garden. Among the many beautiful ferns here is the rare beaded fern. The sides of the bowl and of the Ravine are clothed with a dense hammock consisting of such trees as live oak, gums, magnolia, American holly, and loblolly bay.

Growing along the nature trails in the Ravine, there are more

than 100 species of trees, shrubs and vines, including the needle palm. In the bottom of the Ravine, the visitors can see beautiful palms, a great variety of flowers, shrubs and trees of a subtropical nature.

Remains of an old dam and mill mark the site of a grist mill, cotton gin and sawmill which had been operated years ago by the waters of Gold Head Branch. Parts of the machinery may still be seen at the Old Mill site below the Ravine.

Arrowheads have been found, indicating that the area had been a favorite Indian hunting ground. Minute quantities of gold, which have been panned in Gold Head Branch, probably came from the ancient rocks of the Piedmont Plateau.

As visitors follow around the shore of Lake Johnson they are treated to beautiful vistas of this large body of water, seen through tracteries of Spanish moss and evergreen foliage. Lake Johnson is the largest lake. A small arm extends from the main body of the lake into the park where the main use area is located.

Fourteen family vacation cot-

tages are situated on a ridge overlooking Lake Johnson. Nearby is Pebble Lake and in the park is beautiful Sheeler Lake and small, remote Deer Lake.

The educational possibilities in this State Park are centered primarily around the bird and animal life, geology and botany of the area. The spring-fed lakes, Ravine, and other features prove to be an interesting study area for scientific and educational groups. The entire park is maintained and protected as a wildlife refuge.

Recreational features at this park are nearly unlimited. Among the most popular is overnight camping. Campers find the camping area at Gold Head Branch very much to their liking. Ample elbow room is provided and the restroom building is kept spotless. A new and larger campground is under construction.

The vacation cottages provide a home away from home for families seeking to escape the hustle and bustle of city life. Completely equipped, families need bring only food and themselves for their vacation. Unlike the campsites, the cottages must be reserved in ad-

vance. Reservations are made by writing to the Superintendent, Gold Head Branch State Park, Route #1, Box 305, Keystone Heights, Florida.

The picnic area is located on the shores of Lake Johnson and Pebble Lake. Two large picnic shelters and a barbecue shelter, located north of Pebble Lake, are just the thing for civic clubs and various organization picnic groups.

Boats for hire can be obtained at the boat landing on Lake Johnson. Persons bringing their own craft can put them in the lake at the launching area.

Swimming may be enjoyed in Lake Johnson which has a natural sand beach and gently sloping shore. A bathhouse is provided for swimmers and nearby is the combination refreshment-lounge building.

The foot trails in the Ravine and along the shores of the lakes offer opportunity for hiking. The park abounds in subjects for nature study as wildlife is abundant, varied and protected.

This State Park is located in the beautiful sand hill lake region of Florida, and to be appreciated it must be seen at various seasons of the year, and various times of the day. It is especially beautiful early in the morning or late in the evening, when little Pebble Lake, large Sheeler Lake, remote Deer Lake and Lake Johnson are at their best. You may fish in all of them provided you have a state fresh water fishing license. ●

For complete information and brochure on Florida's beautiful State Parks, including full recreation and camping facilities, write to: Information-Education Department, Florida Park Service, Tallahassee, Florida.

Camping on the Buccaneer Trail

Fort Clinch State Park

SITUATED ON THE northeast tip of Florida at Fernandina Beach is historical Fort Clinch State Park.

History and romance abound in this section of the famous Buccaneer Trail, for this land has served under eight flags—France, Spain, Great Britain, Patriots, Green Cross of Florida, Mexico, Confederacy, and the United States.

It is quite fitting that this beautiful and interesting 1,086 acre state park be named after the well built brick fort which guarded the entrance to Cumberland Sound. The fort and park are three miles from Fernandina Beach and occupy the northeast tip of Amelia Island.

The actual construction of Fort Clinch (named for General Duncan Lamont Clinch of Seminole Indian War fame) was started in December, 1850. At the outbreak of the Civil War, the fort was not completely finished or equipped.

The Confederates occupied it and tried to make it serviceable. This work was under Col. R. E. Lee's general supervision, and he made a personal visit to Fort Clinch to inspect it. The fort was evacuated by the Confederates in March, 1862, and occupied by Union forces until the close of the War.

During the Spanish-American War several regiments were stationed at and in the vicinity of Fort Clinch. After the War, the fort was practically abandoned, and on March 12, 1926, an Act of Congress authorized its sale. In 1935, the City of Fernandina and the Florida Park Board purchased, for state park purposes, Fort Clinch and 980 acres of beach and hammock land. The development as planned by the Florida Park Board and the National Park

Service was executed principally by the CCC. All later development was planned and executed by the Florida Park Board.

During World War II, the Army used the old kitchens for a radio and guard detail and the Beach Lodge for quarters and headquarters. The U. S. Coast Guard stationed a detail here for beach patrol. The U. S. Navy used the Beach Lodge for a radar station.

The park boasts the largest campground in the Florida Park System—190 sites. Some of the sites have electrical hookups for trailer campers. Clean and modern restroom facilities include hot and cold water showers. The fee for overnight camping is \$1.55 per night per camp site. Electricity, if used, is 25c extra per night. The camping area has tables, benches, and grills and is situated in a spacious oak-shaded location. Sorry, no pets are allowed to remain in any Florida State Park overnight.

Fishing from the jetties that reach out into the sound is a favorite pastime of many visitors. Others enjoy the shaded picnic area or the attractive nature trails. A boat ramp and parking area are located at the camping area. A free museum is located within the fort. Day visitors pay a small 50c per car for the use of these facilities. ●

Compared to the costs of tickets to other forms of recreation, the fishing license is a good buy. Florida residents can fish year round state-wide for \$3.00.

Tagged bass have been known to travel as far as 60 miles upstream and 123 miles downstream from their point of release in Florida rivers.

MAN'S SEARCH

(Continued from page 5)

demonstrated. Because they are living flora, progress can exterminate them.

Progress is a word of extremes. There can and has been progress in human nobility, but progress can also protect a faceless, useless destructive facade of economic brutality. Some public agencies and people who use the wailing wall to save the Redwoods also buy redwood lumber to build picnic tables.

The current demand for more recreational areas is not by any stretch of the imagination in the same category as leaving uncut those virgin Redwoods which have so far escaped, or for that matter, the preservation of the Canoe Country in northern Minnesota. In both instances, there is nothing comparable in the entire United States.

Too often the battle lines are drawn on such opposition that anyone who attempts compromise is in the line of fire from the two armies. In both instances the compromise is to leave these two rare gems of nature alone. Of the Redwoods, approximately 750,000 acres of the old growth remains from the original 2,000,000 acres all in California. Up to now, practically all redwood logged commercially has come from giant trees of the virgin Redwood forest. With more than 85 per cent of that forest gone and the cut-over land in varying stages of regrowth, the tree-farming concept of sustained yield and timber management must begin to function—if it is ever going to function at all. All of us will eventually have to get along without old-growth redwood lumber. Why not now?

Of the Canoe Country, we can afford a million or a million and a half acres of this glacial lake region. Even though part of it has been badly mutilated, nature can

eventually heal many of the scars; but not so for the Redwoods.

In both California and Minnesota there are some who maintain that outsiders should mind their own business. Others say, **WOODSMAN SPARE THAT TREE**, but would encircle the areas with doubtful commercial tourist ventures. Highway departments always seem ready and willing to aid and abet both commercial interests. Preservation should be based on the rare ecological communities these natural phenomena represent. The Canoe Country is already in government ownership, and America can afford to pick up the check on the Redwoods and pay the taxes.

Is our economy in so precarious a situation that these areas are needed so it will not fall apart? Will the sticks and stones from these few acres determine our survival?

Prior to the American Revolution the United States has been known as a refuge for those who hungered for food, for security, for religious freedom, for equality, for human dignity; and combining all, for the full and complete life. Part of these hungerers have been satisfied, others are reaching fulfillment.

The United States is a nation of inconsistencies. Land is retired from agriculture, surpluses are shipped abroad, given away and allowed to spoil. Congress launches a massive program to overcome poverty. Experts set the standards, and some people do not realize they live in the depressed area until they read it in the paper.

No longer is there a cry of the

Black bass in Florida will grow an inch a month, or one foot in a year, and weigh one pound. In some northern states this growth would take two to three years.

timber famine. There is a surplus of some species; others may run low but technology seems to be keeping abreast of that aspect. Forest industry directs its technicians to create new products to convert the increasing increment and entice greater public buying. Standards of living are gauged by the number of cars and electrical gadgets sold, and the construction of more luxurious homes and apartments as well as freeways. Americans today have more leisure than they can cope with, but they have incomprehensible hungerers that go unsatisfied. They have become slaves to the stresses of the culture they have created.

The more perceptive person senses that it is caused by the destruction of natural surroundings which can never be replaced. We are now promoting a spiritual poverty founded on too many material gains. We are losing ground simply because we cannot invent a machine which will take care of all spiritual needs. Our citizens have become so preoccupied with storing up material gains and status symbols that they are now unable to differentiate between idleness and productive leisure. If the Redwoods and the Canoe Country are to be preserved there will always be a minority who will down-grade their quality through lack of appreciation.

These two rare gifts of evolution should not be measured in the light of board feet of timber to the acre or the tourist dollar. The many present give-away programs belie the justification for their conversion into dollars. In these two instances let the money changers stay out of the Temple.

If I never see them again, I still want to know that they are there and being protected. They should be left as a bench mark of progress, the kind of progress which proves that man for all his shortcomings has still retained a sense of nobility. ●

New Boating laws not required as much as the expansion of present enforcement programs

BOATING

Fishing Boats

By ELGIN WHITE



BEST THING ABOUT April, according to most Florida boatmen, is the real advent of spring fishing. 'Course, March 21 is supposed to be the first day of spring, and the weather we have had all winter, with few exceptions, has made it seem like spring all winter . . . but April is the month when most of us wanna shake loose for some small boat fishing.

You know, it's funny how cycles move in boating. During the big "boom" in 1957 and 1958, everyone wanted the family cruisers, the more powerful motors, the flashier boats with all the accessories. Then the "boom" slowed to a "pop" during the early '60's, and boatmen began swinging to the fishing craft again.

Bigger motors came back in 62-63, and the cruiser boys were back on top. Now comes 1965 and fishing craft are beginning to move to the fore again.

Several reasons for this, I think. One thing, fishing craft are even getting to *look* like cruisin' craft. Take a gander at the accompanying photographs. These little babies are as sharp as tacks, and Momma feels no qualms whatsoever about putting her tootsies into these smart looking fishing boats to join Pop in going after the finny denizens of the deep.

Another thing . . . the motor manufacturers have given some emphasis to the small fishing motors the past two seasons . . . 3.9's and 5's are real popular, and there has been a heavy demand on the 10's, too. These smaller motors, in addition to being quite a bit less in cost than the bigger babies, have also been improved to the point of reliability and quiet performance that makes them prime movers in the market place.

Small boat fishing is, has been

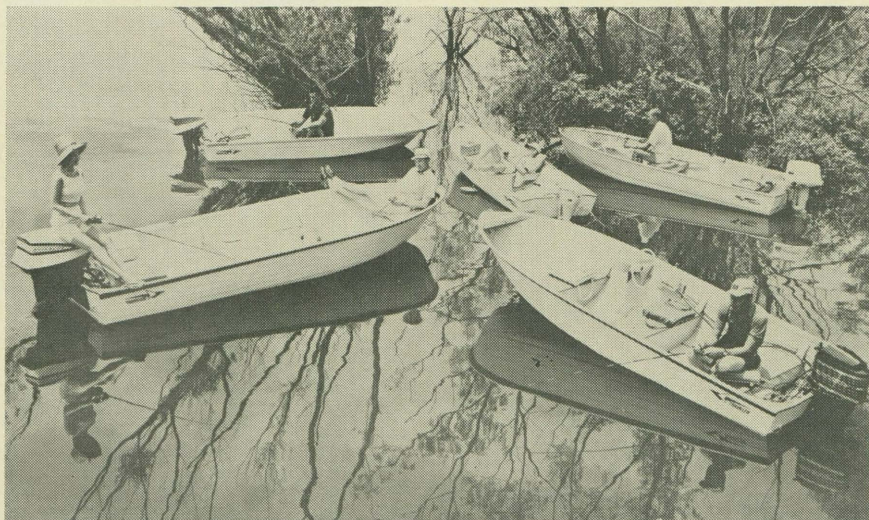
and always will be one of April's prime attractions in the boating world. It gives the family boatman a chance to take the whole clan fishing for the first time since back in September (though this winter in North Florida has probably been an exception with all the warm weather).

And to top it all off . . . the fishin' is good, just about everywhere.

These little fishing craft pictured here are of aluminum construction, have the new lapstrake one-piece hull, are lightweight enough to be handled by two persons, and can even take up to a 30 hp motor for water skiing. You can't sink 'em, either . . . they have the foam flotation.

THOUGH THIS month really signals the beginning of fishing activity in the boating world, you cruisin' bugs can crank up, too. April, May and June are ideal cruising times for many sections of Florida, and for some suggestions, try these on for size:

The Suwannee River is still high (been that way for months because of the heavy rains we have had for the past eight-nine months). Dame Suwannee, when she's high, offers ideal boating in one aspect . . . you can go far upstream, even up past White Springs in a regular sized family cruiser. The waters, at last report, were at least three to three and one half feet above normal. This cuts down your view of the clear water springs that feed the river all along its 200 mile route to the Gulf of Mexico, but it does offer
(Continued on next page)



Small boat fishing in Florida is again on the upswing, especially when manufacturers like Traveler come through with new models shown above.

(Continued from preceding page)
plenty of deep water that'll move you over otherwise dangerous shoals.

Some more prime boating waters include the Homosassa, Withlacoochee, Wacassassa and the Crystal River areas. This is river country many people don't go boating on for some reason. You can put in on the Wacassassa, near Gulf Hammock, and cruise right on out some magnificent country to the Gulf. I guess the reason many people haven't explored these rivers is because you do have to move into the Gulf to get from one to the other.

I made this trip not long ago with my old buddy E. T. Bales, sports editor of the Chattanooga (Tenn.) News-Free Press, and we found the runs in the Gulf quite a thrill. Usually the waters of the Gulf of Mexico are as calm as a lake, and going from the Wacassassa to the Withlacoochee was a breeze. We went on up the Withlacoochee to the Florida Power Dam and there isn't a more beautiful bit of river boating water than this stretch of about six-seven miles. And remember, this is where the cross-Florida barge canal will meet the Gulf, so if you want to cruise the waters before traffic gets heavy, now's the time. And there isn't a better "stopping off place" anywhere than the Izaak Walton Lodge at Yankeetown.

Another prime April cruising spot is the central Florida lake country. You can put in at the Ocala Boat Basin, move out into the Silver River to the confluence of the Oklawaha, then on southward through Lakes Griffin, Harris, Dora, Apopka and the unforgettable Dora Canal. You ain't seen nuthin, yet . . . this Dora Canal takes you back into antiquity. The cathedral-like stillness of the tall moss covered cypress trees actually puts you in another world. If you haven't made this run by boat, by all means give it a try. As ol' buddy Bales put it

when we made a jaunt through there, "This is the most beautiful boating mile in the world." 'Tis true.

EXPANDED educational programs, improved enforcement of boating laws and obtaining adequate funds to finance them will be the primary objectives of a majority of state boating administrators in 1965, according to a recent survey conducted by the Boating Industry Association.

Renewed interest in education and enforcement, coupled with the decline in proposals to impose greater restrictions on boating operators, apparently stems from the fact that the rate of serious boating mishaps continued to decline in 1964. States contacted by the survey reported an overall decrease of more than 10 per cent in boating fatalities, while some states increased boat registrations about 13 per cent.

Checking with officials at the Florida Conservation Department, I found that increased registration in our Sunshine State ran 5,000 more than in 1963-64 registration period. During that period, our Boating Council pa-

trols had a big hand in keeping the number of accidents and injuries down a great deal from the previous year.

There will be many legislatures finding new bills in the hopper aimed at bringing about even better conditions in present laws. Most laws are about as good as we need them. What we really need is the wherewithal in terms of cash money to provide for extended enforcement of the laws we now have. Our Florida Boating Council is doing an outstanding job with the force it now has. It needs more force, that's all there is to it.

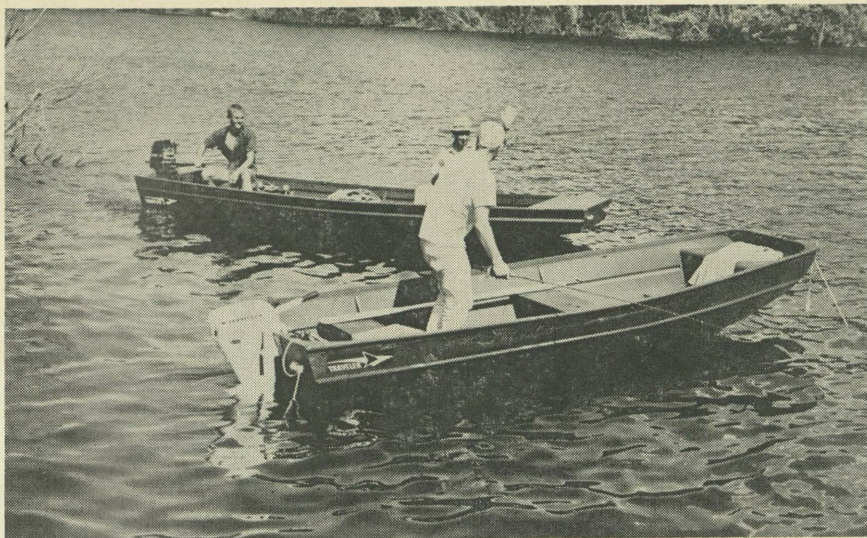
Some states, notably California and Arkansas, have prospects of licensing proposals coming up in the Legislatures this year, and Connecticut mentioned new age limit laws as a possibility. We hope we never come to this in Florida. We now have 224,808 registered boats in Florida, and our Boating Council can do an adequate job of policing if the patrol force is expanded. I'll never see why we should license boat operators, although there is some talk like this kicking around.

Lot of outdoor enthusiasts going to be shopping for their first boat this spring. April seems to bring out the "bug" in a lot of us, whether it be for a new car, new hat, or a new boat.

When shopping, you wanna be sure you know what the salesman's yakking about when he's pouring it on to get you to buy a new hull. In case you're vague, here are some hints on what he'll be saying to you: The "sheerline"—or he may just say "sheer,"—is the curve described by the gunwale when you look at a boat from the side. A conventional sheerline is high forward, swoops to a low point just aft of amidships (how's that for sailor talk?) then rises slightly to the stern. Straight sheerlines, especially in fiberglass boats, are common today since they simplify matching of deck and hull mouldings.



Huck Finn never had it this good! Houseboat fishing and cruising is getting to be a big thing in Florida these days, and more rental units are becoming available.



The new Johnboat is a popular fishing rig these days. These fishermen trying their luck on Florida's St. Johns River are sporting the latest thing in modern fishing craft, another product by Traveler.

That portion of the hull sides above the water is "topsides," although it can be loosely used to mean all of the boat above water. The distance from the waterline to the sheerline is called the "freeboard," and of course varies along the length of the hull.

The topsides of most boats arch outward to throw spray clear—this is called the "flare." Flare is often carried all the way aft, but toward the stern the sides of many boats begin to slope inward. This is called "tumblehome," but watch it . . . too much "tumblehome" can invite waves aboard. And we don't mean female sailors, either.

The part of the bow which cuts the water and rubs the beach is called "forefoot," and the wider, straighter part of the bottom on which the boat planes is called the "run." The amount of vee in the bottom is called "deadrise," and the sharply curved portion where the sides and bottom blend together is called the "bilge."

Happy shopping.

FOR SOME strange, unknown reason (at least to the writer) there has been a dearth of houseboats in Florida available for rental purposes. We have noticed in the past six-eight months a

tremendous demand for these floating homes by visitors coming to Florida, and by our native sailors alike, for a week or two on a rental basis.

Plenty of these plush jobs are to be had for sale, but they are few and far between on the rental deal.

However, to allay the problem somewhat, an enterprising outfit in Fort Myers has come up with a rental houseboat proposition that should prove to be a bonanza for the firm.

It is called the COMMAND-UR-CRUZ, and operates from the Port Comfort marina on Highway 867 in Fort Myers. This is the road to Sanibel Island.

The COMMAND-UR-CRUZ houseboats are 28 feet long, fiberglass structures, completely equipped with all the latest gadgets, and can be rented for \$80 for two days or \$195 for a week. These plush little carriers can sleep from four to six persons, and the only cost to you on everyday expense is fuel and food.

Many anglers, finding out about this houseboat arrangement, can rent small skiffs to tow along to their favorite fishing holes, bed her down and hang right over the spot, or cruise around after the best fishing areas, and fish from the smaller skiff.

Houseboat fishing is becoming most popular, not only with the fishing fraternity who like to gather four or five guys together for a jaunt, but with family groups, too. Figure it out . . . for \$195 plus food and fuel, an entire family can have a ball on their favored fishing grounds . . . having much more fun for little more cost than it would demand staying at a vacation resort.

THE COWBOYS have created a wake down in the Flood Control District near West Palm Beach.

Seems the aquabatics of many speedboat cut-ups in that area has created a howl from the fishing gentry that ply the waters in that area of the FCD, and officials of FCD are studying means to stop such antics. Several small boat fishing enthusiasts in recent weeks have been soaked, and in some cases swamped, by high riding cowboys tearing through the canals at will.

This sort of boating is simply ridiculous. It is uncalled for, completely inconsiderate, and tends to make officials among the safety minded in high circles want to do something about licensing such individuals to operate. Licensing will be no answer, but severe crack-downs by law enforcement officers will. Another good reason why our Florida Boating Council should be given more where-withal to do a more effective job of rounding up these buzz buzzards and get 'em off the waterways.

I have seen these cowboys in action. I have seen them on such serene waterways as the Oklawaha and in the lakes and canals in central Florida. A point here: Many of them have been under the influence while crashing through these waterways. This is just as bad as driving a car in the same condition . . . maybe worse. I sincerely feel that strict laws should be passed against this type operation.

Well . . . talk to your legislator! ●

FISHING

(Continued from page 7)

The Southern Angler's and Hunter's Guide covers pickerel pretty thoroughly. This corpulent reference book, published by Don Fuelsch, P.O. Box 117, Albert Pike Station, Hot Springs, Arkansas, costs a dollar and there are 960 pages in the 1964 edition.

It's a pretty good investment. I've paid ten times as much for a lot less information.

CRUELTY IN THE gentle sport of angling? Well yes, to a certain extent.

It may be that fish are so far down the scale of life they don't feel pain but I have always felt that a shiner, impaled on a bait hook and gradually beaten to death by casting would rather be somewhere else.

Some kinds of live bait fishing are a bit too hairy for my taste.

For example, fishing a live frog you can have. As a youth I pierced a frog with a bait hook but when he grabbed the shank in his "hands" it was too much for me and I haven't fished a live frog since.

And I guess I'm as ornery as the average because I pull down on quail with enthusiasm and would frequently kill my limit of doves if I could hit them.

We all have some quirks along those lines I guess.

Fellow I went fishing with some years ago refused to kill a rattlesnake we encountered on the trip.

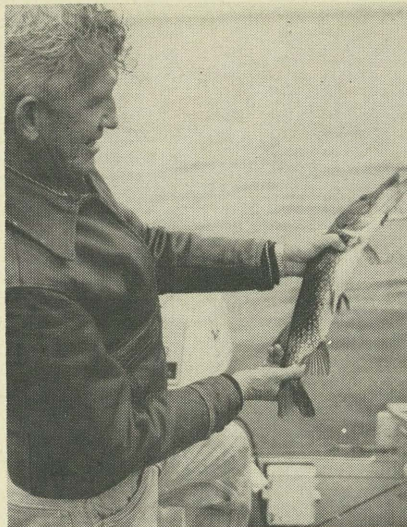
"It has as much right to live as I have," he explained.

An hour later he caught a gar, broke off its bill and threw it back.

"Let it starve to death," he said with satisfaction. "I hate gars."

Have you seen *your* psychiatrist lately?

CAPTAIN Andy McLean may have some people a little sore at him. McLean, a successful South



Like most of the pickerel or "pike" caught in Florida, this "jack" struck a bait intended for bass. Although he took a surface plug, spoons and spinners are generally considered tops for the grass-lovers.

Florida fishing guide, puts out an annual "South Florida Fishing Mate," which covers the coastal area from Naples around the southern tip of the state.

He's a careful student of tides and has prepared a series of charts to help fishermen choose time and place.

So why should anybody be sore at him?

Well, he's taken some maps of the area from Flamingo to Naples and meticulously marked the good fishing spots. This unheard-of tattling may shake a few old-timers who thought they had a corner on certain areas unknown to casual visitors.

I fish down there quite a bit and was pretty impressed by the chart markings. He sure zeroed in a lot of my fishing places.

Oh, Andy probably kept a few private spots up his sleeve but he's pointed out enough of them that people who buy his book can pretty well take off on their own. If you don't see his book around the newsstands you can probably get it from Capt. Andy McLean, 5158 N.W. 32nd Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33142.

This directory is simply a different kind of book—whether you like it or not.

I've written dope for a number of directories myself and have never been so specific about fishing spots. There are both good and bad features. I'd suspect that the directory is good promotion for the area; it makes fishing look a lot simpler.

On the other hand, it may encourage heavy fishing in areas that won't stand too much of it.

Time will tell on these scores. I'll bet Andy McLean wondered a little before marking some of those holes.

I believe I have successfully straddled the fence on that one.

NOPE, I'M NOT in the employ of Scientific Anglers, Inc., who make all kinds of fly lines but I want to mention that they have a new, up-to-date dope sheet on matching fly lines to rods. You can get it for free by writing to Scientific Anglers, 1012 Jefferson Ave., Midland, Mich.

It is simply a copious listing of current fly rod models along with the line weights that fit them. It is useless to hope that all potential purchasers of fly equipment will get such a sheet but it would be wonderful if dealers who don't know the fly rod route could have the information readily at hand.

MORE "stunt" fishing—but interesting, nevertheless.

Stu Apte, the record-chasing airline pilot from Miami, recently caught a sailfish on his flyrod—off Panama. He also landed a whole batch of dolphin, one of which was a fly fishing record.

CARDBOARD TUBES that new rods come in can be made into very durable cases by the use of wrapped canvas or oilcloth with suitable stickum to hold it together.

PURPOSELY DUNKING a noisy reel in fresh water sometimes isn't as crude an expedient as it appears. Often in oiling a reel, small parti-

cles of sand or other trash get moved into a position where they cause a lot of racket and accompanying abrasion.

A quick dip in fresh water may flush some of the gunk out of the works—although repeated soaking will eventually slosh out the lubricant and make things worse than ever.

A lot of fishermen who oil their reels regularly enough never get around to having them cleaned and a decade or so of dirt can get in with the grease and oil.

IF YOU CAST pretty accurately you may have noticed some plugs are hard to plop on a small target. Some shapes can take aerial darts a lot of baseball pitchers would like to duplicate.

One of the trickiest at aerial maneuvers is the darter type of lure. The South Bend Oreno baits do it sometimes and a high wind makes it worse.

If this really worries you and you're chunking at a really small area, I think you'll find a gentler cast minimizes swerves caused by the bait's own momentum. High winds, of course, really wreck a soft cast.

Plugs with a symmetrical shape make the most accurate casts. The old torpedo plugs don't swerve and the Zara Spook is noted as a good casting bait.

Rapalas and similar lures are pretty light for their surface area and thus rather hard to cast accurately in the small sizes.

Although a very heavy lure of small size would probably be least affected by wind and its own momentum it requires a slightly different casting technique from a bulkier bait that "rides" the air. After casting a wooden or plastic plug for a while, I have a little trouble being accurate with a very small, heavy bait such as a jig or Seahawk (clothespin lure).

Baits that turn over in the air are difficult to throw straight but there aren't many of them. ●

DOGS—HUNTING

(Continued from page 11)

way point of his heat only to have the birds ridden up by the gallery. During the final seconds of the heat the new champion made his second find and presented the judges with the opportunity to judge his outstanding ability at bird work.

Both the champion and his brace mate ran forward and far reaching hunts, the type that is only possible on the prairie county of the trial grounds. This is one area where a big running dog can really stretch out and continue to remain in sight of judges and handlers. While the trial grounds are considered by many as the best possible testing area, the bird population is not as plentiful as it could be and opportunities to judge a dog on point, leaves much to be desired.

All American-Sporting Dog Award

THE SPORTS AFIELD magazine annual All American-Sporting Dog Award named a Florida owned German Short-Haired Pointer as the top dog of the breed. "Moesgaard's Dandy" owned by Dr. L. L. Kline of Orlando, led the listing of six All-American German Short-Haired Pointers. The owners of a dog listed in the Sports Afield All-American Sporting Dog Award received a sterling-silver pin as emblematic of the outstanding honor. Awards are presented to Pointers, English Setters, Irish Setters, German Short-Haired Pointers, Weimaraners, Brittany Spaniels, Chesapeake Bay Retrievers, Labrador Retrievers, and English Springer Spaniels.

Conditioned Reflex

LAST FALL Dave Duffey, dog editor of Outdoor Life magazine was driving through north Florida with a friend. They had just entered a small town when they noticed an old pointer—scarred from years of palmetto and briars—clicking leisurely along the

sidewalk. The veteran bird dog was ambling sleepily in the morning sunshine, operating on only two cylinders but ready for anything that might turn up.

As the car passed the dog, Dave's companion stuck his head out the window and bellowed "YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL!" In a flash, the old dog snapped on point.

Dave turned a corner two blocks farther on, and looked back.

"By that time the dog was looking around, wondering where the covey was and who had yelled," Dave said. "But he was still on point, and may be yet."

Florida Wildlife Award

THE FLORIDA WILDLIFE Award is presented by the FLORIDA WILDLIFE Magazine to the dog winning the Qualifying stake at the annual A. K. C. licensed retriever field trial sponsored by the North Florida Amateur Retriever Club. The 1965 award was presented to a female labrador "Gloral Loral Jezebel" owned and handled by Justin W. Hardin of Franklin, Ohio, at the conclusion of the retriever field trial February 19-21. Next issue of FLORIDA WILDLIFE will carry the complete report of the retriever field trial.

Sportsman of the Year

Jack Fiveash and Harold Stokes of Pensacola were named co-winners of the Sportsman of the Year Award as presented by the Pensacola Sports Association. Fiveash and Stokes spearheaded a drive by the Northwest Florida Pointer and Setter Club to attract the top bird dogs in the nation, and the top handlers to a bird dog field trial in Pensacola last December.

This is somewhat of an honor for the sporting dog fraternity to be recognized with an award that is normally associated with football, base ball, or other competitive sports. Our congratulations to Jack, Harold and the Pensacola Pointer and Setter Club. ●

TACKLE FOR FLORIDA

(Continued from page 16)

crappie. They can be cast with your medium spinning rod but something a little lighter is nearer the ideal.

Small spinners, always deadly on bluegills, warmouth, etc., have pulled a comeback in recent years. Several of the best such as the Mepps, have a weight integral with the spinner itself, ideal for casting with a light spinning outfit.

The sponge rubber spider with rubber or plastic legs has been hitched to small spinners with

considerable success. Of late, a small squirrel tail fly seems to be even more popular. I have no choice between the two myself. I think you're going against the current if you try to use these things on fly rods. They're ideal for spinning.

Flies for Florida are easy to select. For bass, medium-sized popping bugs would be first. I tried huge poppers here for years and reluctantly concluded they liked the medium ones better.

Panfish will go for tiny poppers and there are a lot of fly fishermen who use one a bit large for

bream and a bit small for bass but likely to appeal to either. The rubber spiders are hard to beat for panfish. Used with no weight of any kind, they float in the surface film and can be manipulated with very gentle twitches.

Most salt water species like streamers better than poppers and both will work on salt water trout. Trout fishing with fly tackle is a sadly neglected sport.

When you select a tackle box and other accessories for Florida, remember we have high humidity and that our salt air will almost rust your teeth. ●

MUZZLE FLASHES

(Continued from page 9)

The entire range determination procedure is faster and much more simple than words can define it.

The special scope sight for the Winchester Model 94 firmly mounts low and over the center of the bore, forward of the receiver to clear the path of the rifle model's straight-up ejection of empties. Heretofore, a scope sight on the Winchester Model 94 had to be mounted in offset position in relation to bore.

Eye relief of the Redfield scope sight is long—6 to 10 inches—enabling the shooter to quickly find the aiming reticule and distant target. The assembly is streamlined to a degree that the shooter sees around the scope as well as through it, without any obstruction of target and surrounding area. This is especially important when shooting at running game.

Besides the "Accru-Range" variable power models, and the special sight for the Winchester Model 94, the Redfield line of scope sights includes three models of fixed power hunting scopes,

from 2¾X to 6X. Crosshairs and post with single horizontal crosshair are optional standard reticule choices in the fixed power hunting models. Dot style reticule can be had on special order. The 2¾X model with combination bold post and single horizontal crosshair aiming reticule is particularly suitable for Florida hunting, where ranges are generally short and where fast shots must often be made at targets moving amid thick brush.

A scope sight must be mounted on a rifle securely and in the proper sighting plane, and even a top-quality scope sight will prove of little value if teamed with a flimsy or otherwise unreliable mount. Redfield also makes good scope mounts, both solid and split ring styles, including a pivot type mount that permits a scope sight to be instantly swung out of the way when the shooter wants to revert to metallic sights.

The Redfield Jr. model scope mount is probably the most practical of all listings. It mounts a scope sight low and central over-bore on a long list of popular rifle models. This mount will take the pounding of the heaviest recoil without shooting loose. The

shooter can remove scope and holding rings, for storage or for optional use of metallic sights, and later replace the sight to accurate zero. The Redfield Jr. mount, especially strong in the one-piece base version, should not be confused with the hinged pivot style listing, which can be flipped to one side, as well as detached, on a different working principle.

The Redfield Company has made a valuable contribution to public firearms education in the release of its fine 16mm sound film, "The Scope of Rifle Scopes." While the title suggests a strong commercial theme, actually the story and action center around practical field use of a scope sight for hunting. There is plenty of interesting action.

The film was premiered at the Silver Springs state convention of the Florida Outdoor Writers' Association, and elicited many favorable comments. The movie is ideal for club rifle instruction or showing to a civic group as a firearms handling educational film. Free booking can be arranged by writing the Redfield Gun Sight Company, Denver 10, Colorado. ●

CONSERVATION SCENE

(Continued from page 4)

ducks, including pintails, widgeons, ringnecks and teal. The refuge also is a haven for large wading birds, such as herons and egrets.

Waterfowl habitat is being developed in the refuge through the construction of mosquito control impoundments by the Brevard County Mosquito-Control District.

Lease Plan Aids Ducks

FARMERS AND ranchers hold much of the future of North America's waterfowl on their lands, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. The bulk of the continent's ducks nest and rear young on private lands and what happens to marshes, pot-holes, and other wetlands will directly affect the abundance of birds in coming years. How many wetlands there will be depends on the landowners.

Knowing that a landowner will respond to sound economics, farmer-hunter Jim Thompson of Windom, Minnesota, has devised a lease plan that justifies the retention of wetlands on his farm for waterfowl purposes. He determined that the decision whether to drain or not to drain a 37-acre marsh on his farm should be based on the economic gain to be made from the land. Studies showed that the land, if drained, would give him a net gain of \$2,000 in value over costs. Using 4 percent, rather than the national average of 3 percent, for return in farm land investment, Thompson calculated the land should produce \$80 return annually. To this he added taxes, posting and weed control, and other expenses and arrived at a total of \$150. He then offered, and found ready takers in five hunters and their sons, to lease the land for \$150 a year. In addition to having exclusive hunting privileges, the hunters were given the right

to plant and otherwise improve the marsh for waterfowl. Furtrapping rights, which Thompson believed the hunters should have, but which they refused, added another \$150 to Thompson's return, giving him \$300, twice the amount necessary to keep the marsh from being drained.

Jim Thompson is preparing another 28-acre marsh for lease next year. He knows that his plan is not the whole answer to preserving North America's waterfowl. In fact, there is no single answer other than the fact that it will take the combined efforts of all interested people, whether they be individual landowners or employees of State and federal wildlife agencies. The important point is that Jim Thompson has expressed his personal interest and has taken a step, which if followed by other landowners to preserve wetlands habitat, could mean much to waterfowl.

Thompson's plan deserves study by those agricultural economists who heretofore have viewed drainage as the principal means of handling wetlands.

Turkey for Deer

ONE HUNDRED whitetail deer from Louisiana found new homes in Florida last month, according to a report issued by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

The deer were part of an exchange of wildlife between the two states. Florida traded fifty wild turkeys for the hundred deer which were released in various wildlife management areas throughout the state.

The Florida Game Commission trapped the wild turkeys in areas not open for public hunting and traded on the basis of one turkey for two deer. The turkeys were flown to Louisiana by Commission aircraft while the deer were transported to Florida by truck and released on the public hunting areas.

According to O. E. Frye, Executive Director of the Game Com-

mission, Florida has one of the largest wild turkey populations in the nation and the exchange of wildlife will not only help establish wild turkeys in other states but also implement the deer population in Florida.

Annual Recreation Fee

SECRETARY OF THE Interior Stewart L. Udall has announced that \$7 is the annual fee for the new Recreation/Conservation sticker which 5 million Americans are expected to buy this year as a bargain for vacations and outdoor holidays.

He has issued regulations, which are being published in the Federal Register, spelling out the sticker fee and other charges authorized by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. The regulations do not require any particular method of display but the stickers are intended for use on automobile bumpers. Secretary Udall pointed out that a sticker—which entitles the driver of a private noncommercial auto and all his passengers to admission to most designated Federal recreation areas for the year beginning April 1—will mean in most cases a considerable saving in admission fees, particularly for the head of a family.

Secretary Udall added that the bargain sticker is optional, however, and single entry or weekly fees may be paid instead. All proceeds will be set aside in the Land and Water Conservation Fund. States and Federal agencies will share the revenues, subject to Congressional appropriation procedures.

In enacting the Fund legislation, Congress did not specify the annual admission fee but limited it to a maximum of \$7. Most of the areas it covers are administered by the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and Bureau of Reclamation, all in the Department of the Interior; the Forest Service, De-

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from preceding page)

partment of Agriculture; Army Corps of Engineers; Tennessee Valley Authority, and the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (United States and Mexico.)

Areas where fees are charged must meet four conditions. They must (1) be administered by any of the above agencies; (2) be administered primarily for scenic, scientific, historical, cultural or recreational purposes; (3) have recreation facilities or services provided at Federal expense, and (4) be of such nature that fee collection is practical.

The regulations also list the types of areas and activities exempt from fees. For example, no Federal hunting or fishing licenses or fees may be charged. The regulations carry out the Act's provisions for fees, other than admission charges, for the use of sites, equipment and other facilities, subject to certain criteria. Examples are: Camp and trailer sites, \$1 to \$3 for overnight use; picnic sites, 50 cents to 75 cents per site per day; boat launching sites, 50 cents to \$1.50 daily; lockers, 25 cents per locker daily; elevators, at least 10 cents per person per round trip; bathhouses, 25 to 50 cents per person aged 6 or older; rowboats, minimum of \$1 per boat per day or fraction thereof; motorized boats, minimum of \$5 per boat per day or fraction thereof.

DDT Found in Penguins

MINUTE AMOUNTS of DDT have been found in penguins and seals in the Antarctic—far from any known use of the pesticide, according to the Department of the Interior.

The pesticide residues, measured in parts per billion, were found in fat and liver of six Adélie penguins and the blubber and liver of crab-eater seals. The

specimens were collected in the Antarctic in February 1964 by Dr. William J. Sladen of Johns Hopkins University under a National Science Foundation grant.

Dr. E. H. Dustman, Director of Interior's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center at Patuxent, Md., said gas chromatography and thinlayer chromatography analysis methods were used to confirm residue readings made earlier at the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation at Madison.

Dr. Dustman said analyses by Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife chemists confirm the universal distribution of pesticide residues emphasized in the President's Science Advisory Commit-

CROSS-STATE CRUISING

(Continued from page 22)

Walton Lodge to the Gulf of Mexico, but we didn't run on into the Gulf from there as it was getting quite dark, and besides the Finleys had prepared a scrumptious evening meal for us.

We spent a most pleasant evening at the lodge. This is one of those rustic but modern fishing lodges you read about and see in the movies. It is in a perfect setting at Yankeetown, a little village set back into the fertile forests in this bend of Florida, and was an ideal terminal spot for our cruise across the state.

As mentioned before, this is not an easy trip to make. But it is most unusual in both the boating and the trailering aspects. If any boatman decides to make this journey, he must be well prepared, especially in plotting his course to have car and trailer meet him at pre-designated points for the movements overland.

Even when the Florida cross-state barge canal is completed, it would still be a lot of fun making a trip like this. It tests the mettle of man, boat, motor, car, and trailer . . . and the patience and perseverance of all. ●

tee report on pesticides issued in May 1963.

The report cited occurrences of pesticides in animals in areas remote from civilization.

Both the Adélie penguin and the crab-eater seal spend their entire lives in the Antarctic feeding mainly on shrimp or occasionally on fish. Dr. Sladen said the specimens were collected in isolated areas where no pesticides have been used.

Gun Accident Report

GUN ACCIDENTS resulted in 313 casualties during 1964, 60 of which were fatal, according to the official Firearm Casualty Report compiled by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

Of the 313 casualties, 61 of the accidents involved hunters with 35 of the hunters being youths under 18 years of age. Six of the accidents occurred while hunting deer, 2 while turkey hunting, 31 while hunting small game, 19 while hunting animals other than game and 3 not identified. Seventeen of the hunters were using rifles, 41 were using shotguns, 2 were using handguns, and 1 not identified.

The Firearm Casualty Report indicated a decrease in total casualties from 1963 when 381 accidents were reported, however, there is a marked increase from 1962 when 259 casualties occurred.

Practicing quick draw resulted in 8 accidents, Russian roulette accounted for 3, and BB guns for 4. Target shooting on ranges including skeet, trap and rifle ranges resulted in no accidents for 1964.

The Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission acts as clearing house for firearms safety instructors. Lack of training in firearm safety is a major cause of many accidents every year. The Commission encourages all parents to require their children to have proper firearm training before giving them access to guns. ●

FOR THAT
BIG ONE
THAT
DIDN'T
GET AWAY



FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S FISHING CITATION

is available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the fresh-water game fish of the prescribed species and size requirements. Citation, showing recorded date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of the following application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

Only fishing citation applications received within 90 days from date of catch will be honored.

APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE Date _____
Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name (please print) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Species _____ Weight _____ Length _____

Type of Tackle _____

Bait or Lure Used _____

Where Caught _____ in _____ County

Date Caught _____ Catch Witnessed By _____

Registered, Weighed By _____ At _____

(Signature of Applicant)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIES

LARGEMOUTH BASS

..... 8 pounds or larger

CHAIN PICKEREL

..... 4 pounds or larger

BLUEGILL (BREAM)

..... 1 1/2 pounds or larger

SHELLCRACKER

..... 2 pounds or larger

BLACK CRAPPIE

..... 2 pounds or larger

RED BREAST

..... 1 pound or larger

All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fishing tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.

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